TRIBAL ART SOCIETY

Wednesday
March 1st
2023

ONLINE CATALOGUE LXXVI

MARCH ISSUE

WHO WE ARE

The Tribal Art Society features an online catalogue every month listing quality works of Asian art that have been thoroughly vetted by our select members, who are the in-house experts.

By bringing together a group of trusted dealers specializing in Tribal art, our platform offers a unique collection of works of art that collectors will not find anywhere else online. To ensure the highest standards, gallery membership is by invitation only and determined by a selection committee.

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/TribalArtSociety

Cover Image: A Guhi headrest. Presented by Anthony J.P. Meyer on p. 44

PARTNER

SAVE THE DATE

2023 marks the 10th edition of Paris Tribal.

Paris tribal, an event initiated by Parisian galleries specializing in the ancient arts of Africa, America, the Himalayas, Indonesia and Oceania, has established itself as a major event in the world of tribal art.
Bringing together a selection of the finest ancient tribal art dealers during one week in the heart of the Saint-Germain-des-Prés neighbourhood, this open-air salon offers a unique opportunity for both seasoned collectors and new enthusiasts to discuss and share their passion with recognized experts in a warm and friendly atmosphere.
Constantly evolving, Paris Tribal has gradually opened up to dealers from all parts of France as well as international galleries while retaining its festive character, a central part of the event's DNA since its creation.
A record number of over 40 reference galleries will participate in this 10th edition of Paris Tribal.
Several thematic exhibitions along with a collective show organized by Paris Tribal at the Crous de Paris, rue des Beaux-Arts are on the menu this year: stay tuned for more information soon!
We look forward to welcoming you at the 10th edition of Paris Tribal from April 18th to 22nd, 2023 in the Saint-Germain-des-Prés neighborhood!

2023 marque la dixième édition de Paris Tribal.

Cet événement initié et porté par les galeries de Saint-Germain-des-Prés spécialisées en arts anciens d' Afrique, d'Océanie, d'Asie et des Amériques s'est imposé année après année comme un rendez-vous incontournable du monde de l'art tribal et de l' actualité parisienne.
Regroupant durant une semaine au coeur du quartier de Saint-Germain-des-Prés la fine fleur des marchands d'art tribal ancien, ce salon à ciel ouvert constitue une occasion unique pour les connaisseurs comme pour les nouveaux amateurs de partager leur passion avec des experts reconnus et d'échanger avec eux lors d'un moment privilégié.
Sans cesse en mouvement, Paris Tribal s'est ouvert progressivement aux marchands de Province et aux galeries internationales tout en conservant son caractère convivial et festif inscrit au coeur de l'ADN de l'événement depuis sa création.
Cette dixième édition regroupera plus de quarante galeries de référence, un nombre record d'exposants pour Paris Tribal.
Cette année sera marquée par une riche programmation d'expositions thématiques ainsi que par une exposition collective organisée par Paris Tribal au Crous de Paris, rue des Beaux-Arts : à très bientôt pour de plus amples informations!
Nous sommes impatients de vous retrouver pour notre 10e édition de Paris Tribal du 18 au 22 avril 2023 dans le quartier de Saint-Germain-des-Prés !

www.paristribal.com

10 PARIS TRIBAL
ÈME ÉDITION

18-22 AVRIL 2023

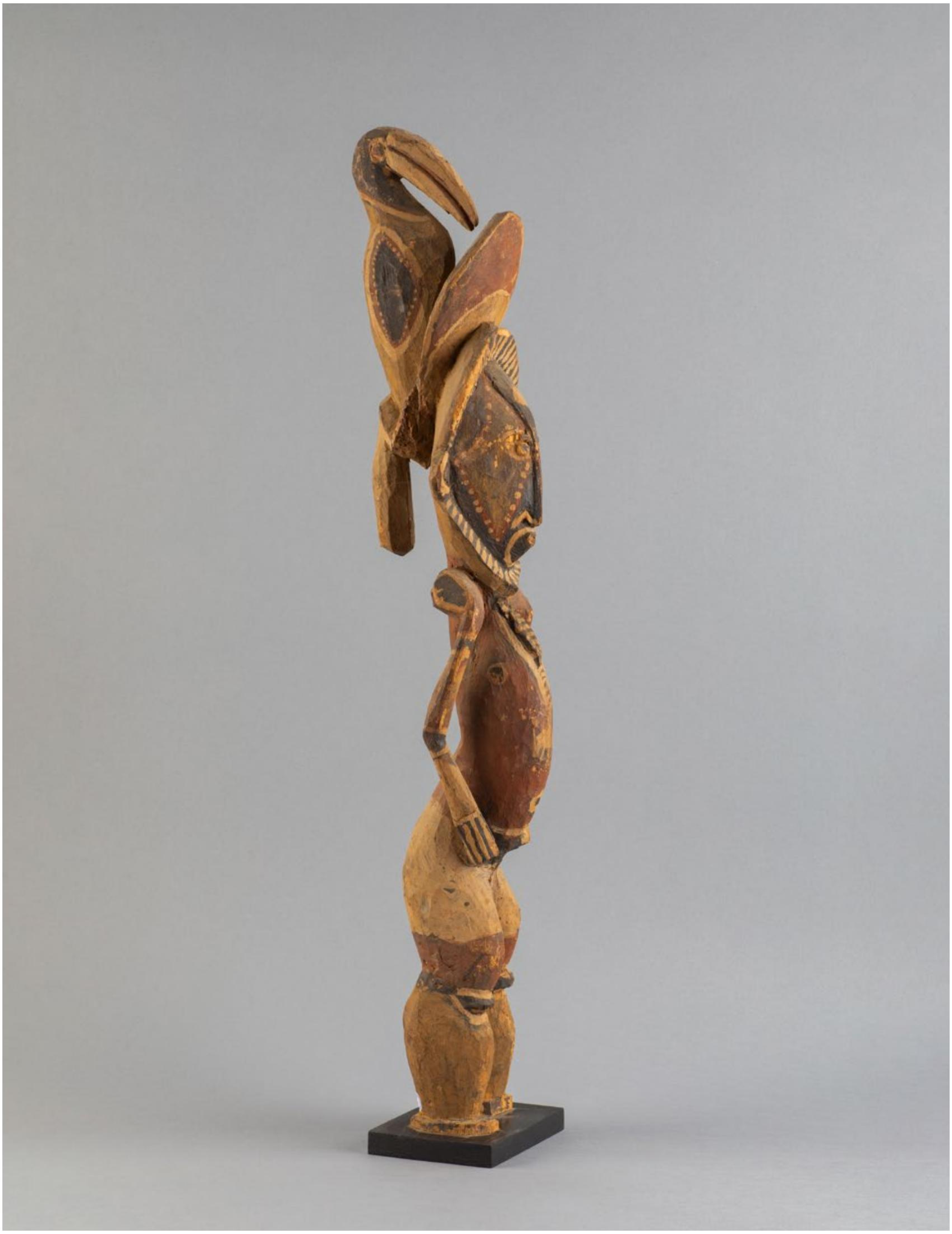
© Van Bussel Photography

MARCH ARTWORKS

Pieces are published and changed each month. The objects are presented with a full description and corresponding dealer's contact information. Unlike auction sites or other platforms, we empower collectors to interact directly with the member dealers for enquiries and purchases by clicking on the e-mail adress.

In order to guarantee the quality of pieces available in the catalogues, objects are systematically validated by all our select mebers, who are the in-house experts. Collectors are therefore encouraged to decide and buy with complete confidence. In addition to this, the Tribal Art Society proposes a seven-day full money back return policy should the buyer not feel totally satisfied with a purchase.

Feel free to ask the price if the artwork is listed with a price on request.



01

ABELAM ANCESTOR

Figure
Abelam
Maprik river, Papua New Guinea
Wood, traces of vegetable pigments
Height: 80 cm
Price: 2.500 euros

Ancestor represented standing, the arms detached from the body and the two hands placed on the stomach. It is surmounted by a bird.

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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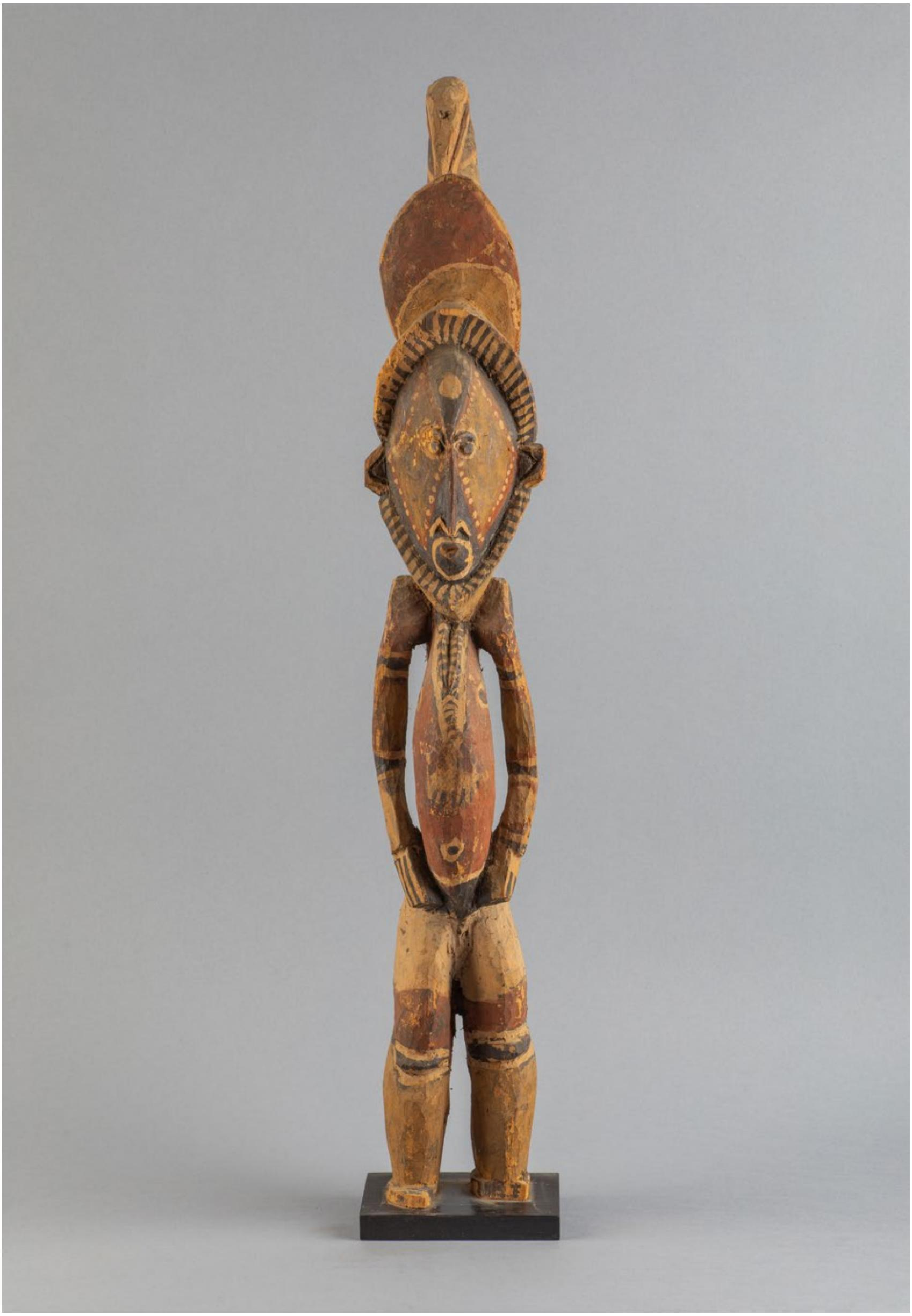

02

AKUABA DOLL

Figure
Ashanti
Ghana
Wood with brown patina
and glass beads
Height: 25 cm
Price: 3.500 euros

Superb doll linked to fertility cults, the cylindrical body decorated with small arms carried horizontally is surmounted by a ringed neck supporting a flat head, with minimalist features, engraved with symbolic motifs.

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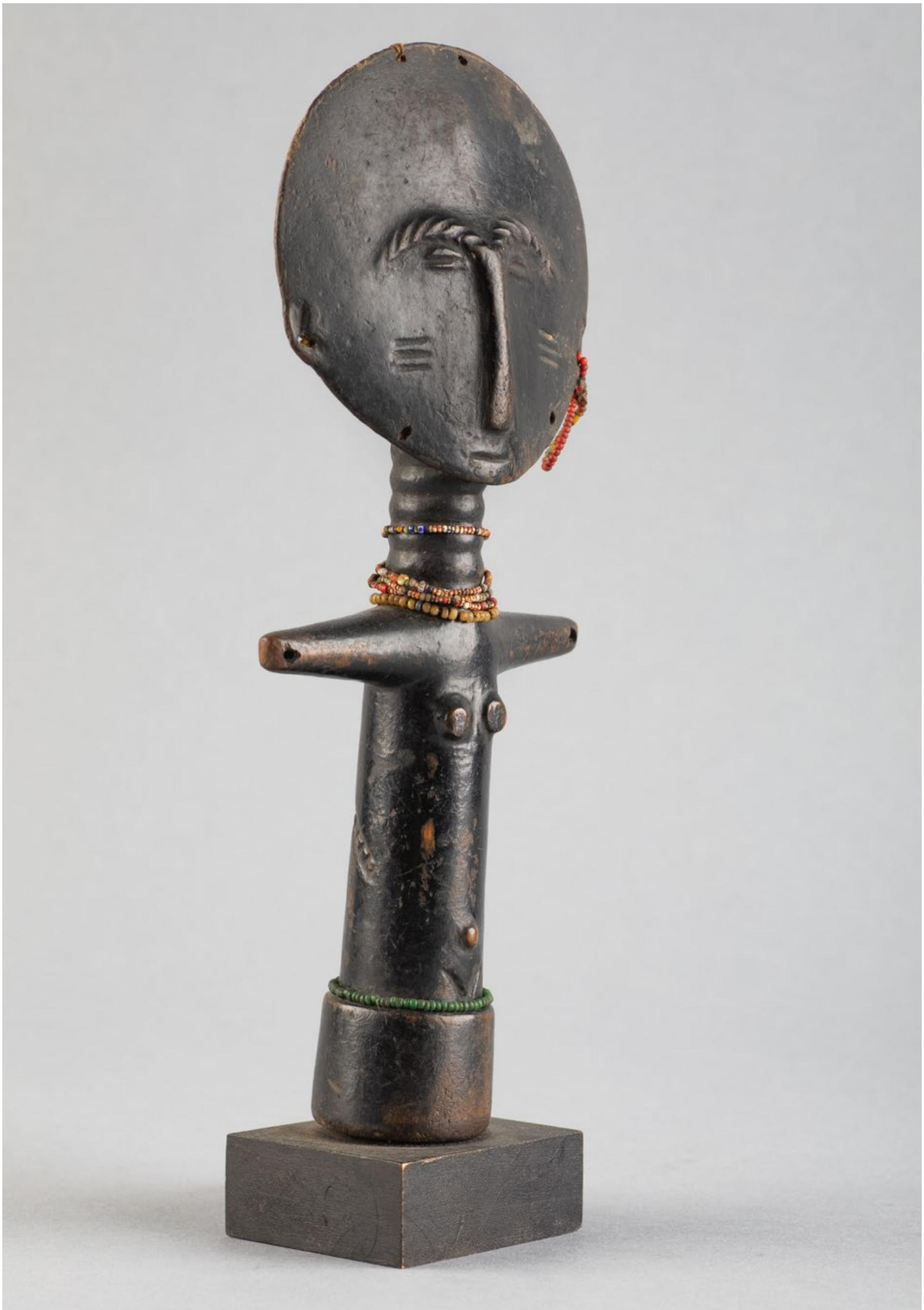

03

KANTU ANCESTOR PAIR

Figures
Kantu
West Borneo
Early to mid 20th century
Wood
Height: 22 cm
Price: 22.500 USD

A very rare matched pair of human figures said to represent ancestors. They display a charming visage and very sensitive hand of the artist.

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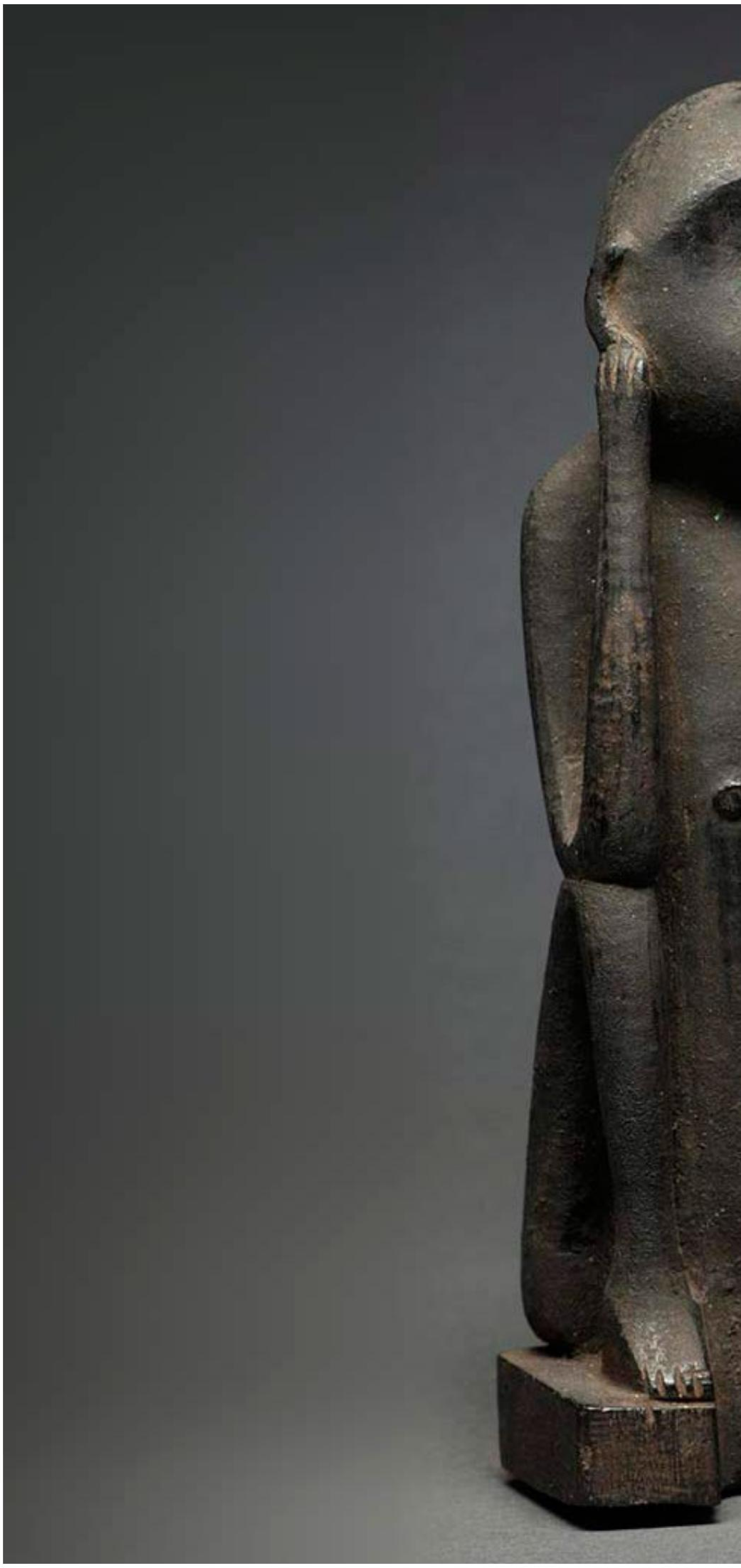

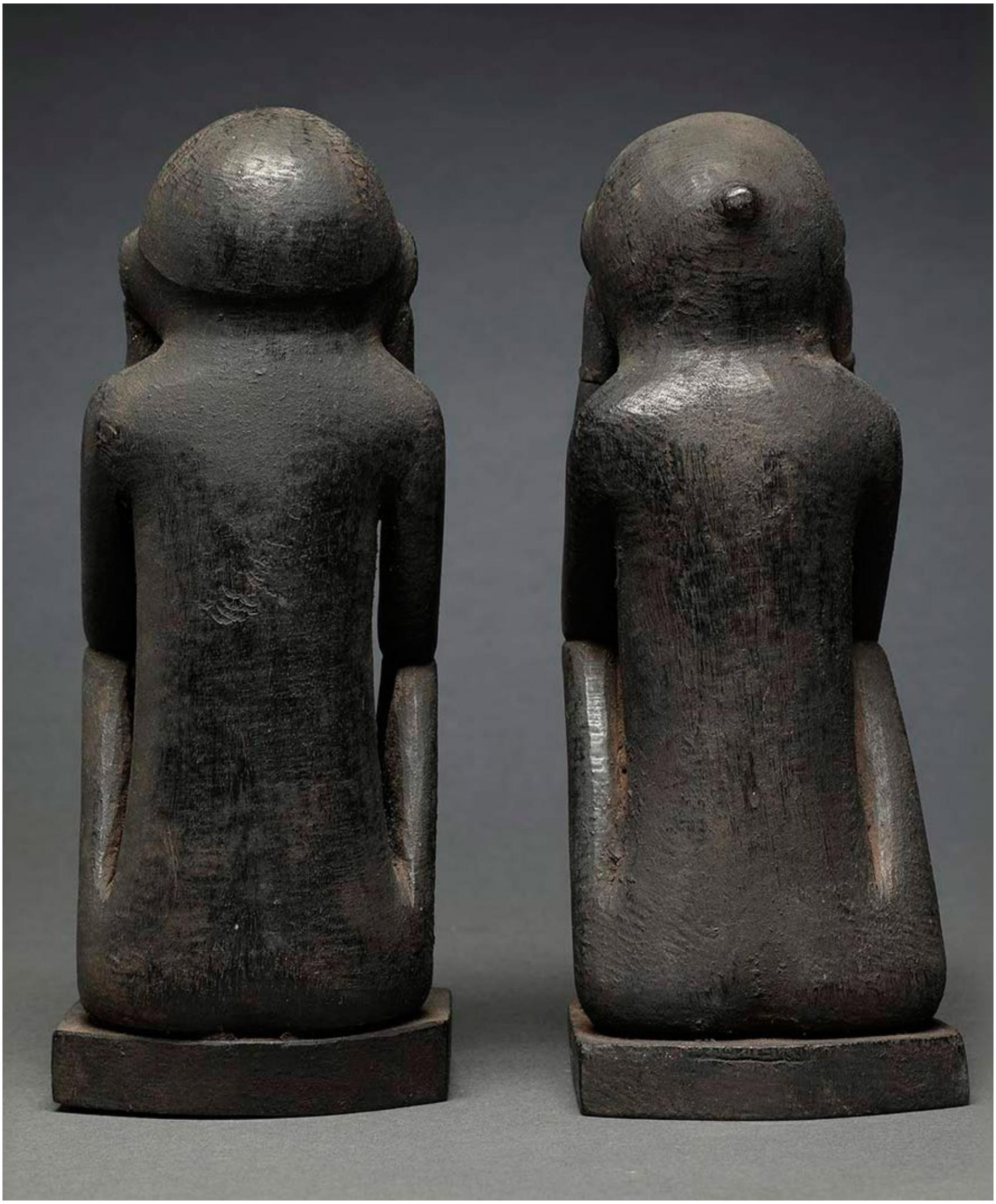

A prestigious and rare Ashanti Stool, covered in finely worked brass sheet.

04

ASHANTI STOOL

Stool
Ashanti
Ghana
Circa 1900
35 cm x 55 cm x 26 cm
Price:

SOLD

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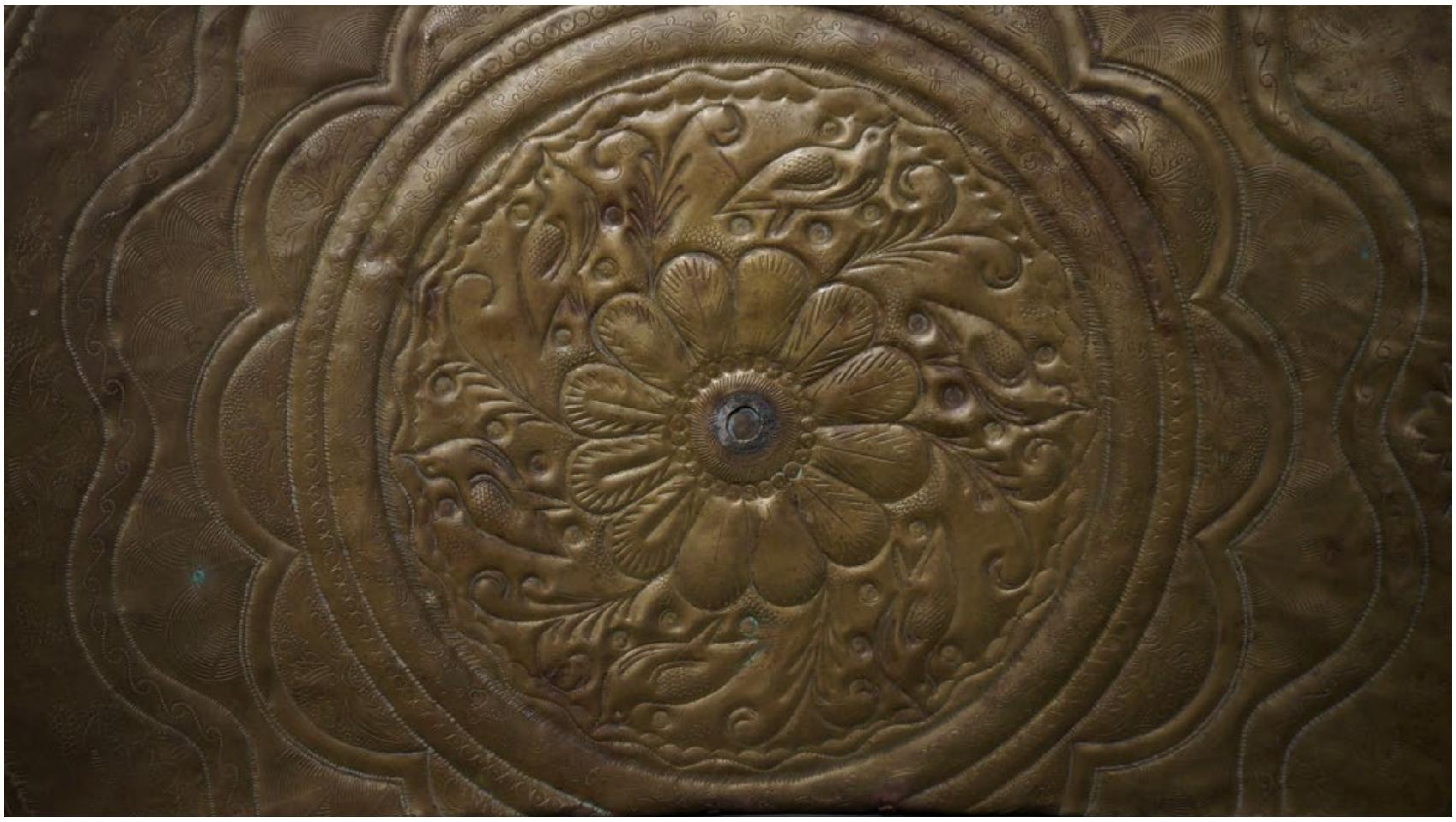

05

BAKONGO SCULPTURE

Sculpture
Bakongo
D.R of Congo
Late 19th century - Early 20th century
Wood
Height: 35 cm
Provenance:
Private collection, Spain
Price: 3.500 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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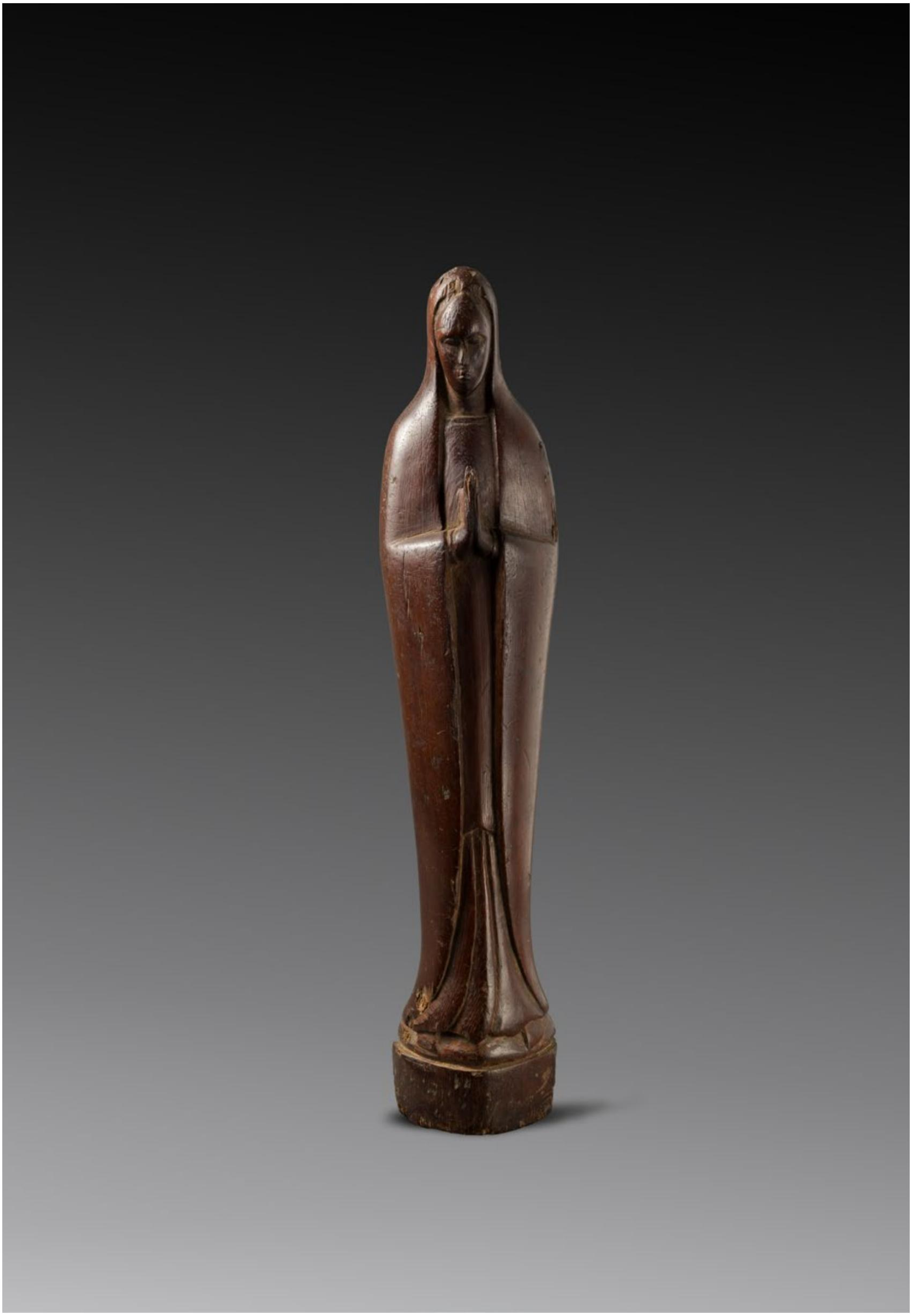

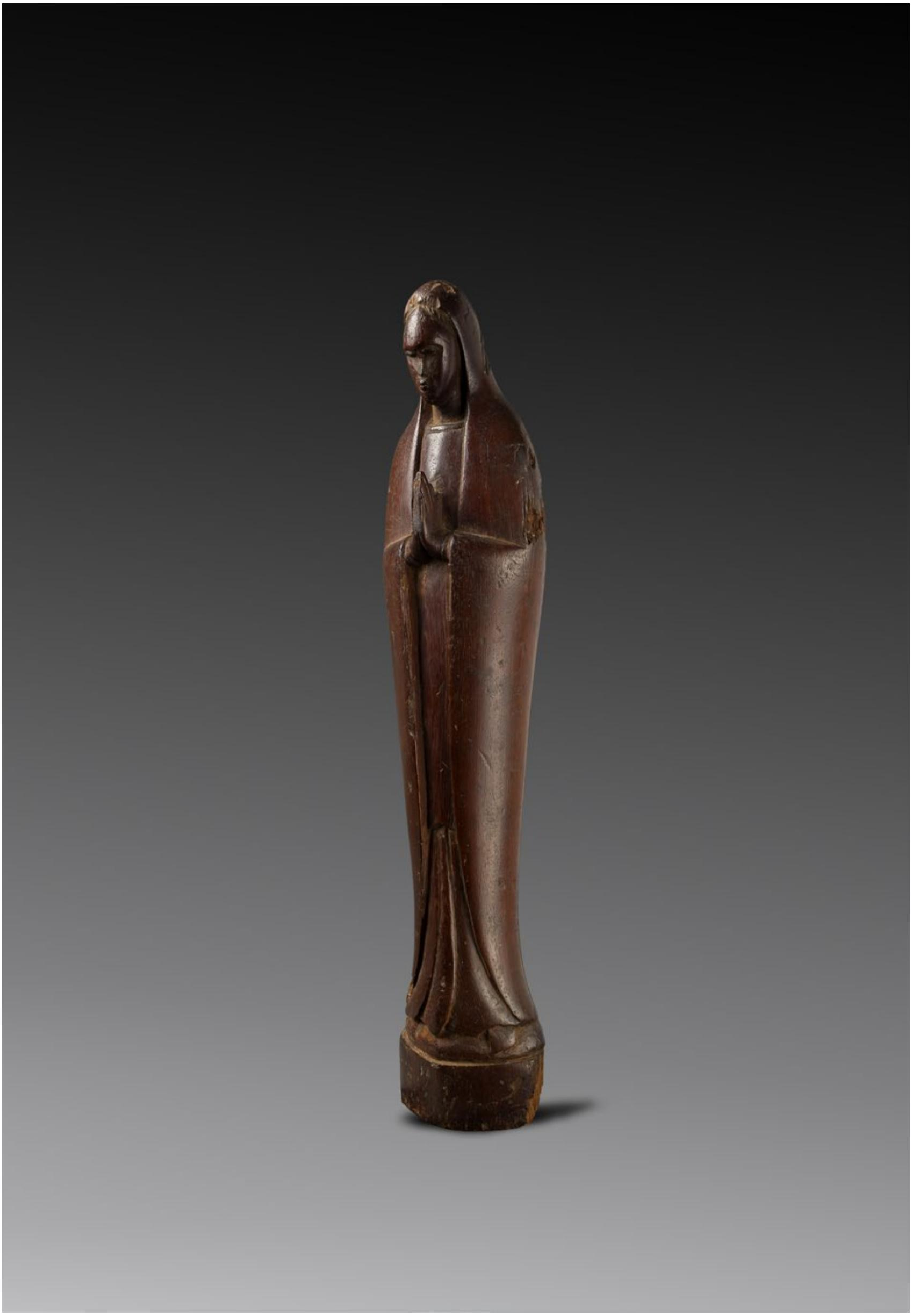

06

ADMIRALTY CEREMONIAL FOOD LADLE

Admiralty Islands, Bismarck
Archipelago, PNG, Melanesia
19th century
Wood, and remains of red
and black pigment
29 cm x 12 cm
Price on request

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
Anthony J.P. Meyer
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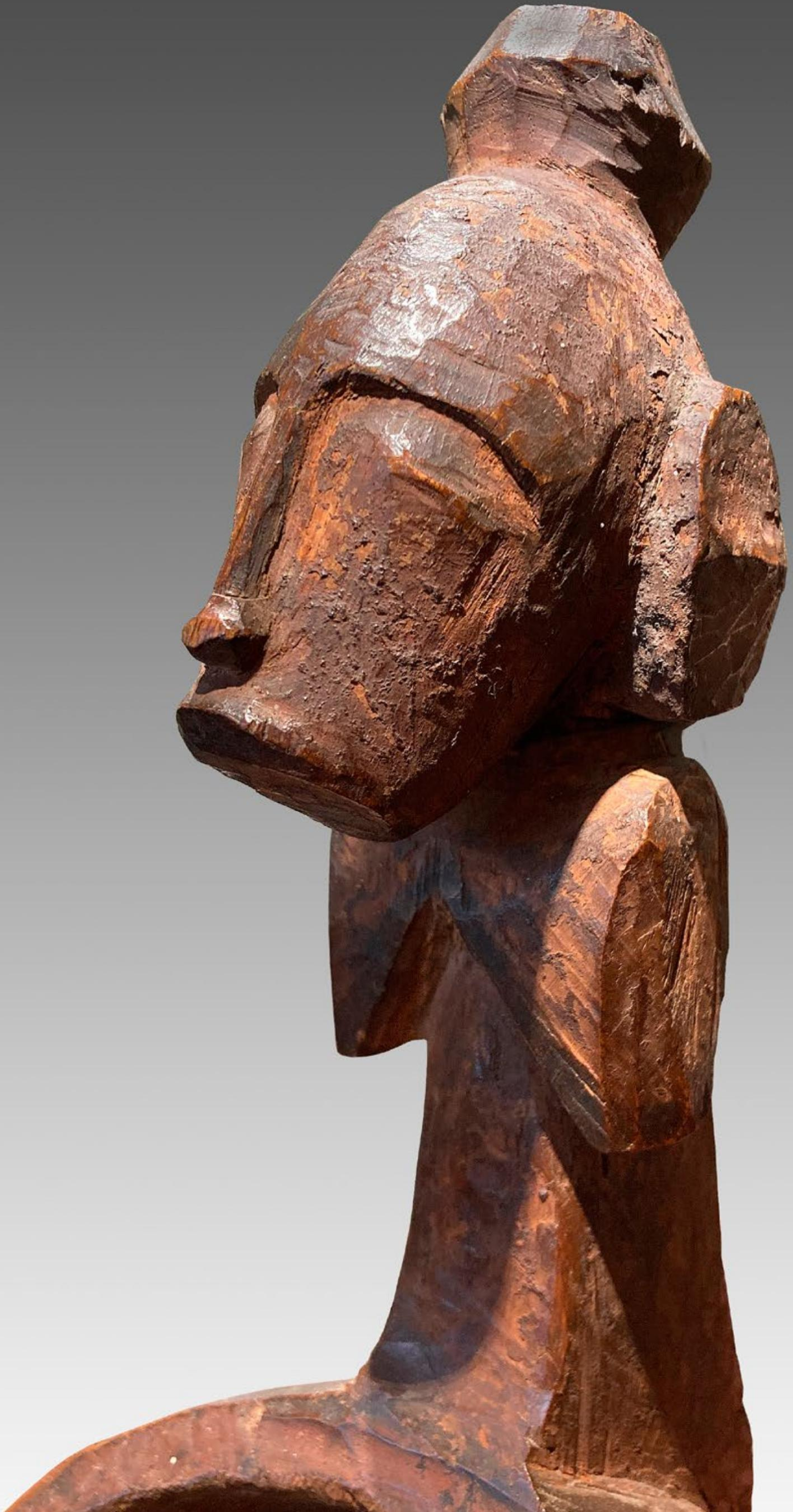
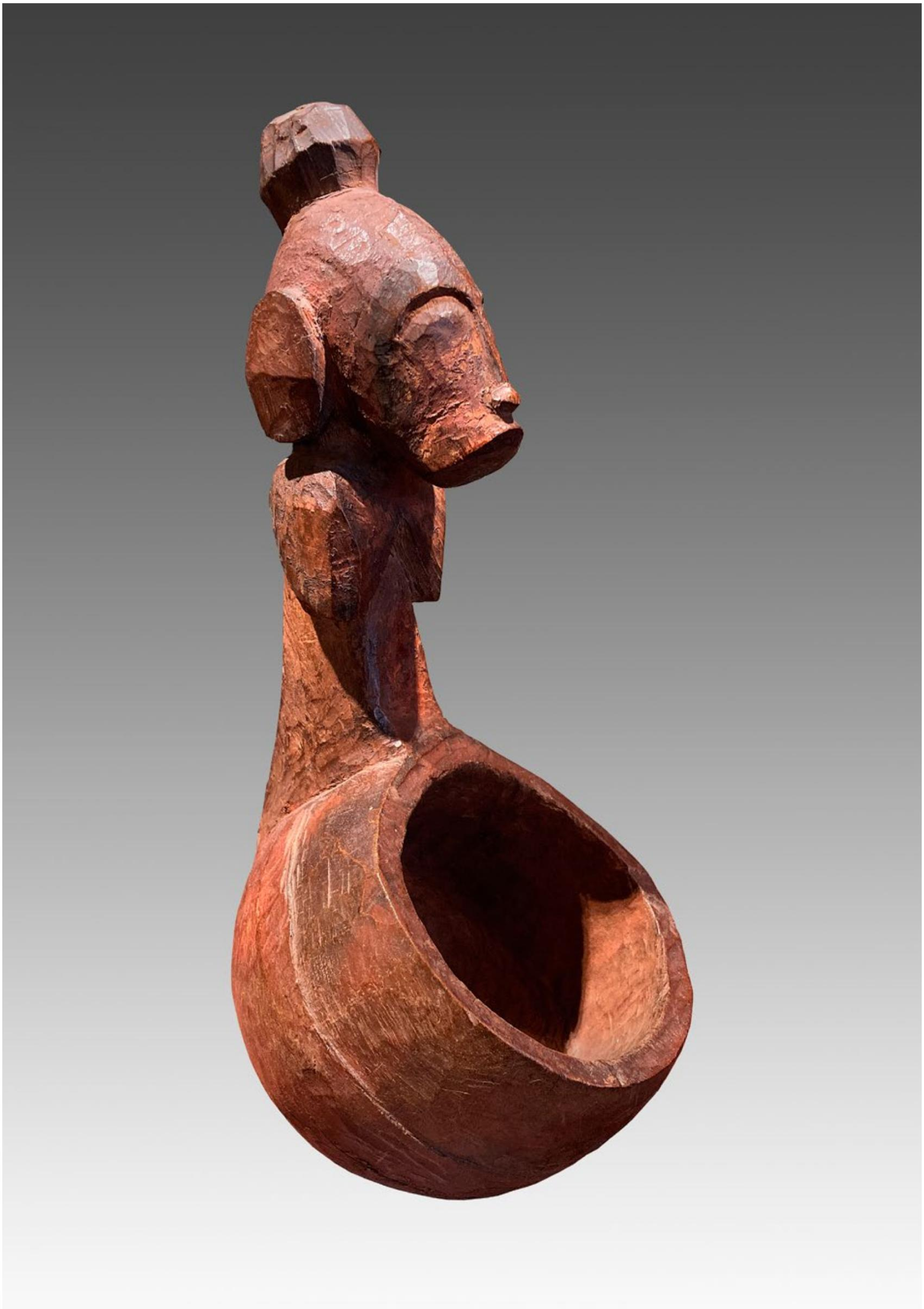
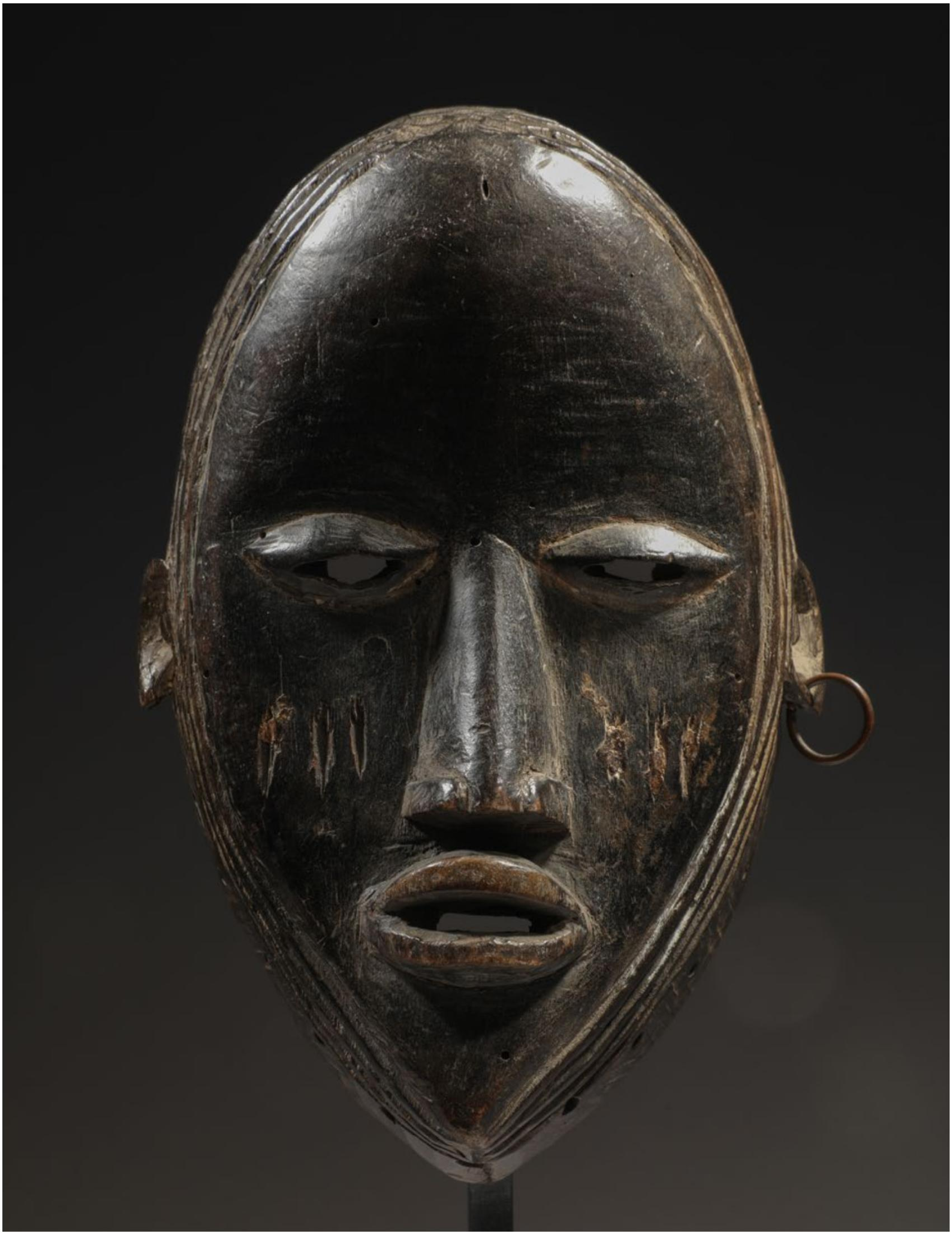
A rare and archaic ceremonial food ladle for an important man. The ornate handle is carved with the stylized upper body of an ancestor wearing a "war-charm" at the nape of the neck. This rare if not unique example is carved from a single block of wood. Ornate ladles were used by men of importance and quite possibly the decoration of the handle is linked to the status of the man in the hierarchy of initiated men, the tribe or in a Secret Society. Most ladles have geometric handles – figurative examples are rare.

Currently presented at the exhibition "MANA - in the Artwork, the Power"
Until 1st of April 2023
At Galerie Meyer
17 rue des Beaux-Arts, 75006 - Paris. France







07

DAN DIOMANDE MASK

Mask
Dan
Ivory Coast
Wood, metal
Height: 24 cm
Price: 2.500 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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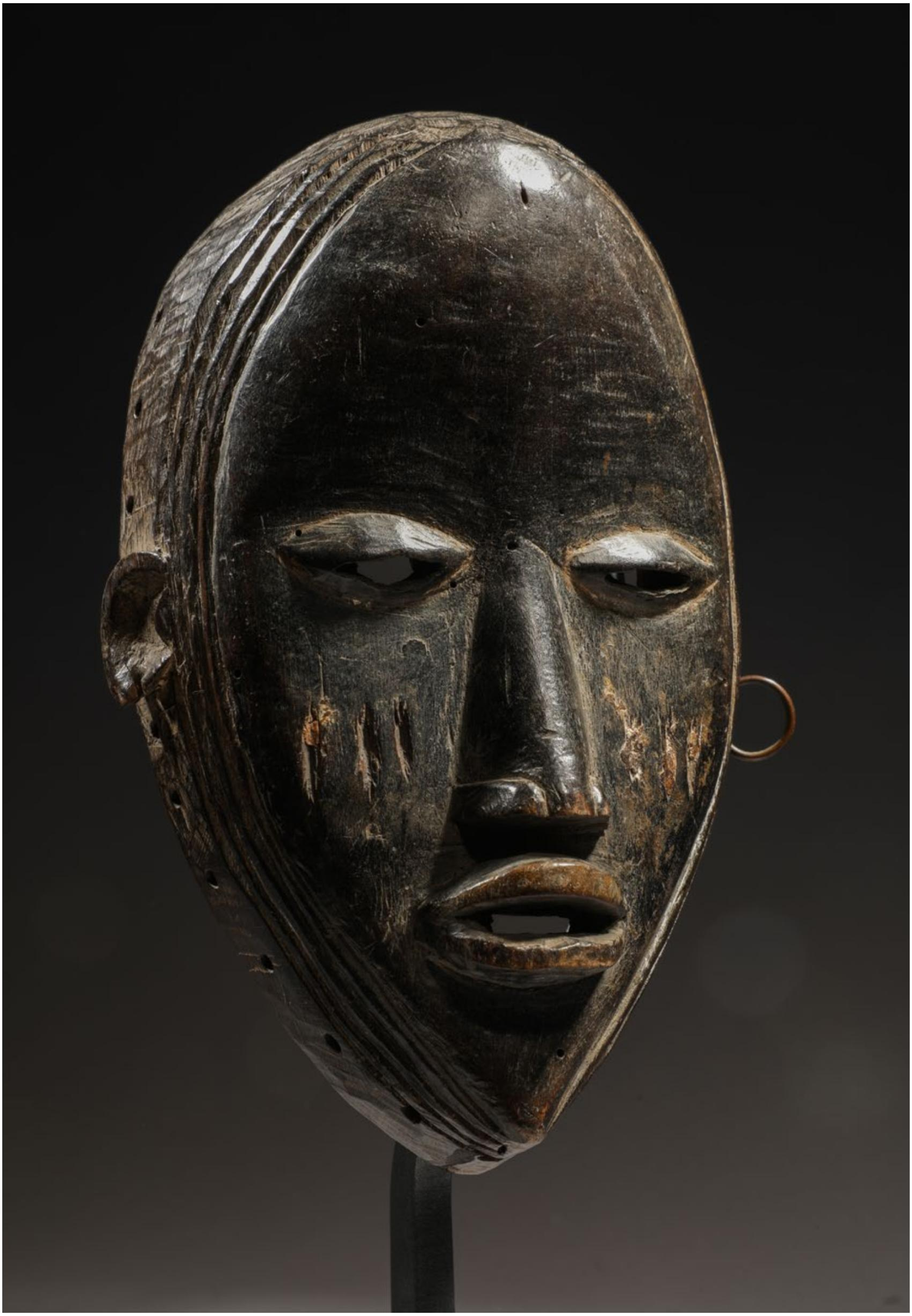

08

EKOI/EJAGHAM MASK

Ritual crest
Ekoi/Ejagham
Nigeria
Wood, skin, rattan and hair
Height: 24 cm
Provenance: Old french collection
Price: 1.800 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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09

FISH HOOK AND LINE

Hook
Society Islands
19th century
Height: 9 cm
Price: 2.200 euros

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10

GUHI HEADREST

Guhi Village, Kombi (Kombe or Kove) area, North West Coast of New Britain, PNG, Melanesia
Early 20th century
Wood with a superb crusty patina of age and use.
20,3 cm x 17 cm x 8,4 cm x 18 cm
Provenance: Field collected at Guhi Village and reported to have belonged to members of the Kalimaruhi clan
Crispin Howarth collection
The Kombi and other tribes including the Nakanai along the North Western coast of New Britain were only officially contacted by Australian Patrol Officers in the 1950's.
Price on request

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An unusual headrest with a powerful female *kami* figure standing on flexed legs. Her enormous hands splay down from the wrists and she seems almost to be supporting herself on her fingertips. The buttocks are exaggerated and she is presented in a cubist manner that is an unusual variation on the artistic style of the greater area. A headrest of this type was not used for sleeping and it served only on specific ceremonial occasions when the owner's hair was being painted red as part of certain rituals. The Kombi people seem not to use carved and decorated headrests, rather they sleep on pieces of pandanus palm-frond stalk.

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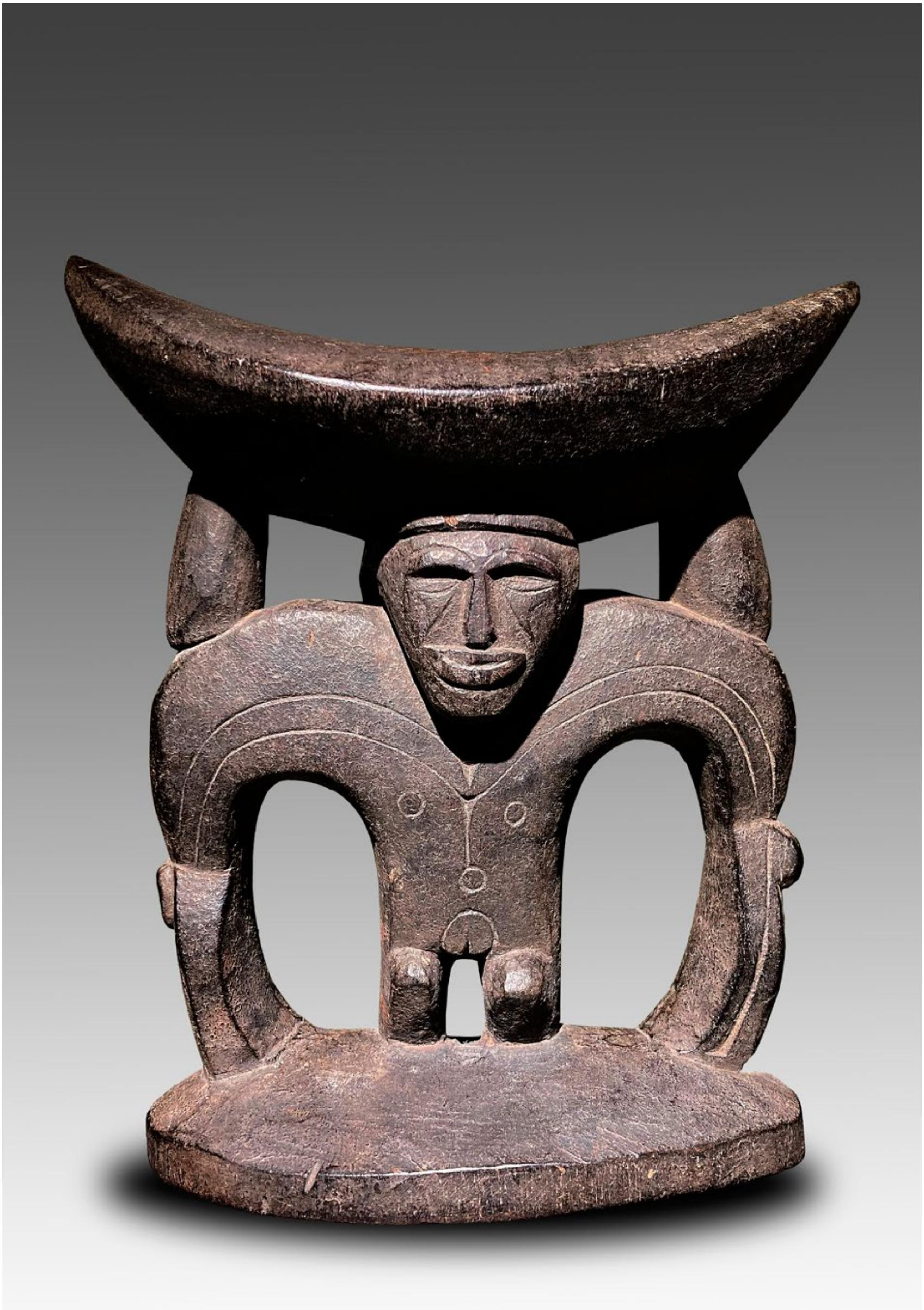

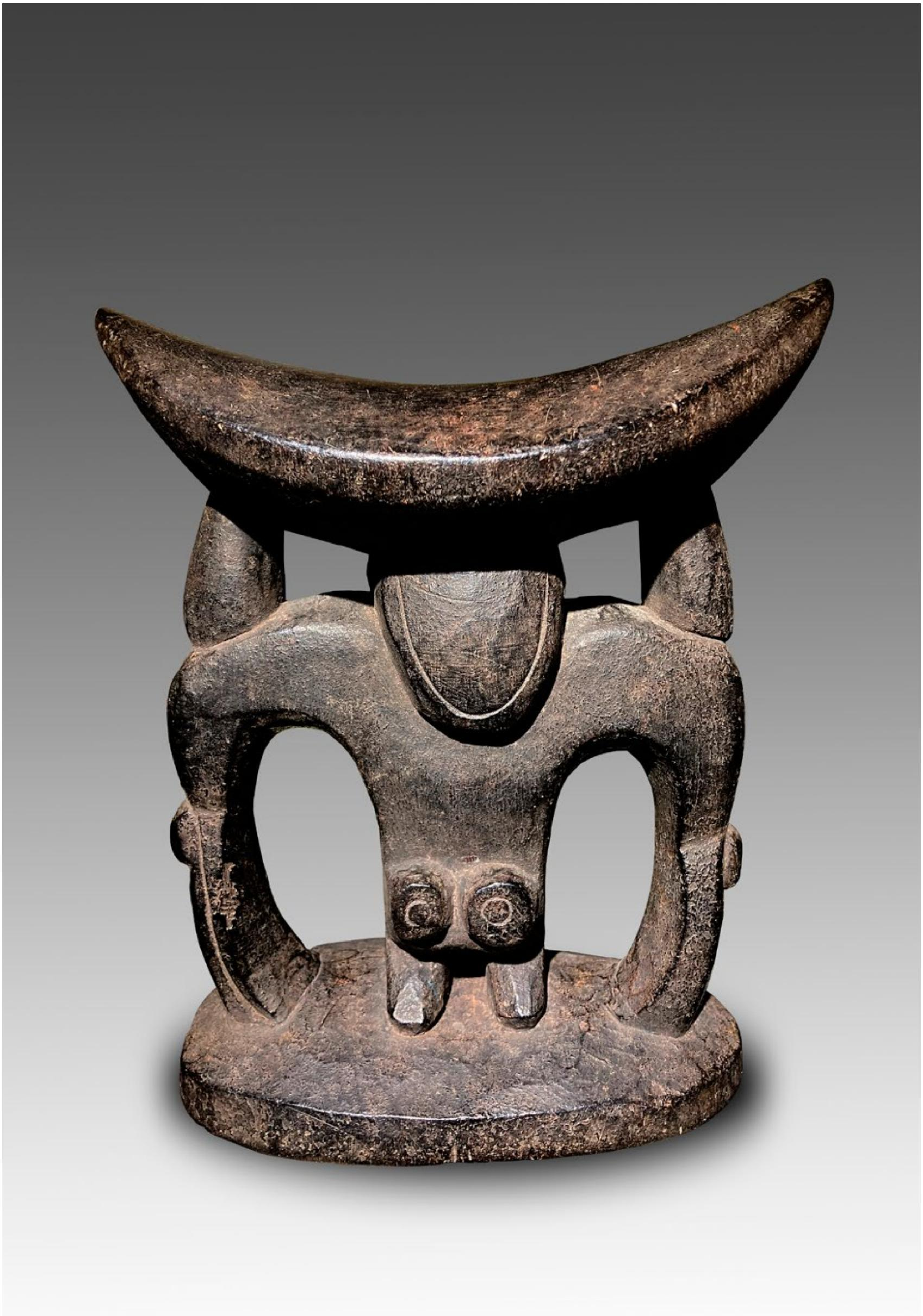

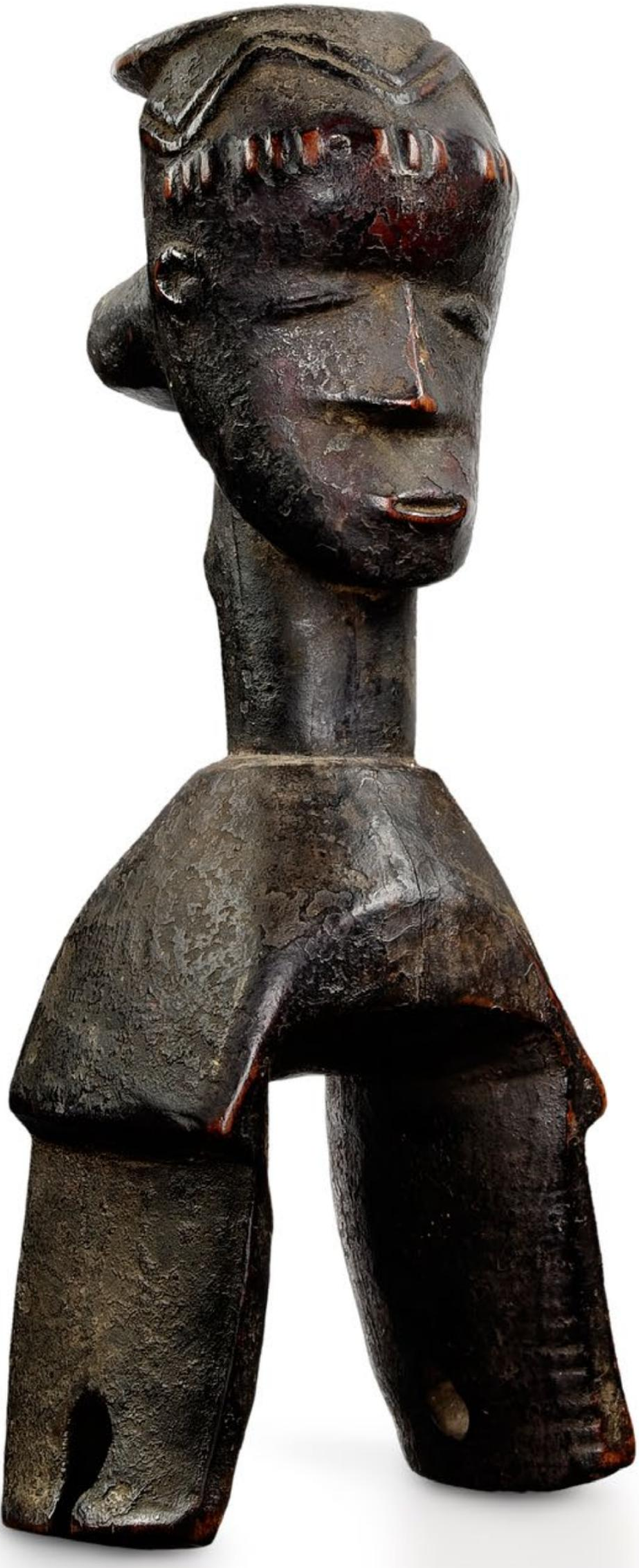

11

GURO PULLEY

Pulley
Guro
Ivory Coast
20th century
Wood, old shiny black patina, reddish brown on the corners
Height: 15,9 cm
Provenance: Former Leslie Sacks collection, Los Angeles. Accession No. 144
Publication: Native auction 22 October 2016 Brussels, n° 33.
African Art from the Leslie Sacks collection
Refined Eye, Passionate Heart, Skira 2013, figure 144, page 232.
Price: 2.000 euros

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Anthropomorphic loom pulley stirrup.

The arch is triangular. At the top of a tubular neck, the oval face is serene. Thick keloids are found on the forehead. The hairstyle is in a bun.

The scroll spool is missing.

Weaving was a noble task reserved for men, perceived as an act of procreation that transforms the material torn from the earth into a material that covers bodies, from the bilas of infancy to the shroud of funerals, passing through the finery of weddings.

12

KACHINA DOLL

Kachina doll, carved by Hopi Chief
Wilson Tawaquaptewa, Oraibi (1873-1960)
Arizona, U.S.A.
Circa 1930s-40s
Carved wood (cottonwood), pigments
Height: 22 cm
Provenance:
Private collection, Paris

TAS Exclusive Price: 6.500 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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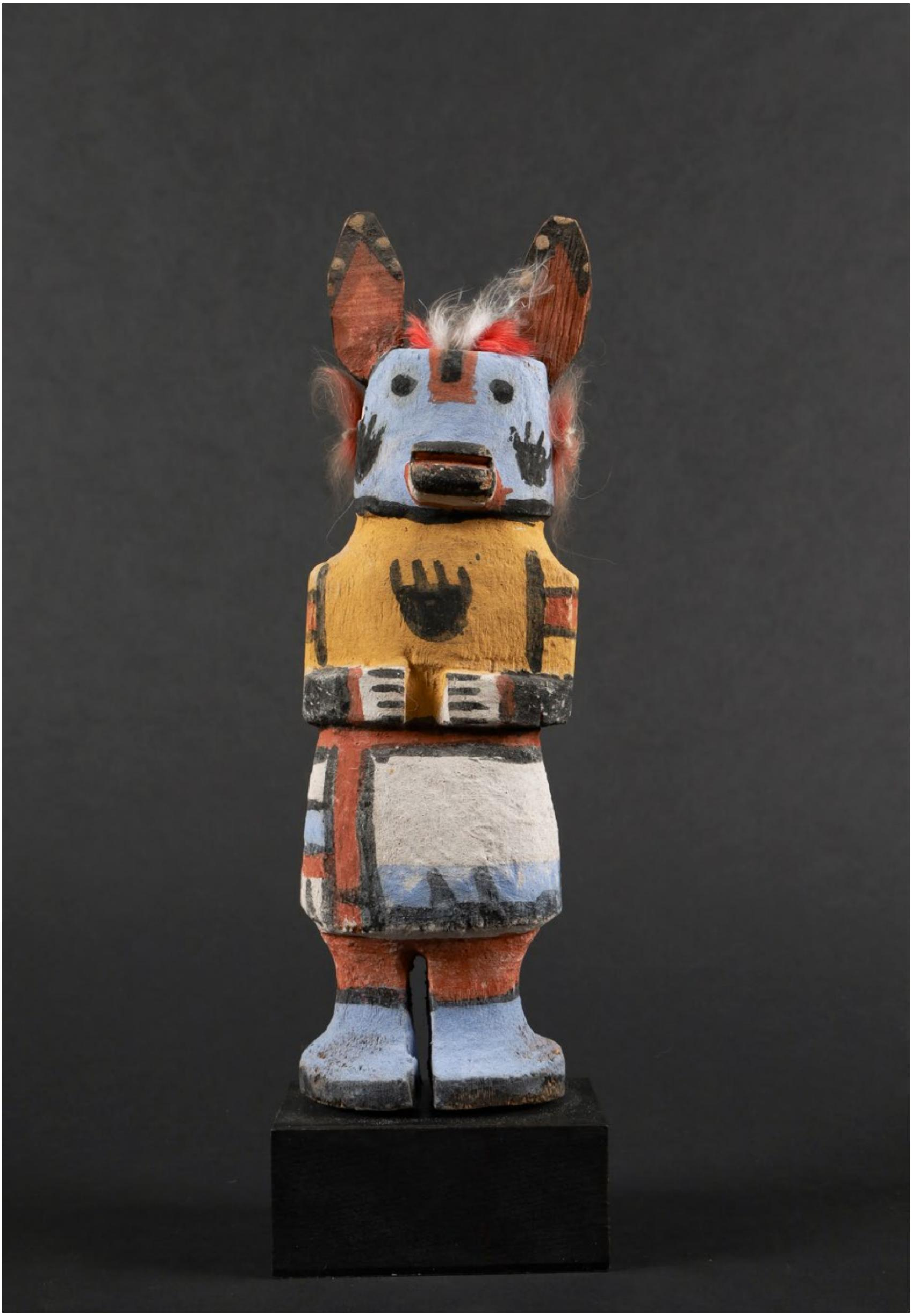
Kachina dolls (or katsinam) represent spirits or gods from the pantheon of the Pueblo peoples in the American Southwest. Given to children, kachina dolls constituted a pedagogical tool allowing them to familiarize themselves with the spiritual world and perpetuating knowledge of the founding myths on which their society was based.
This doll is the work of a Hopi master carver, Wilson Tawaquaptewa (1873-1960).

Oraibi chief W. Tawaquaptewa was both a prominent spiritual and political Hopi leader; he is also celebrated as the greatest Hopi kachina doll carver.

The style and color palette on this doll are typical of this artist's works.

The motifs on the cheeks and torso are badger or bear prints, two powerful Hopi spirit / clan symbols associated with healing.



13

KIFWEBE MASK

Female *Kifwebe* mask
Songye
D.R.of the Congo
20th century
Carved wood, pigments and fibers
Height: 38 cm
Provenance: Nadya Levi collection, Antwerp (1929-2021)
Jo de Buck collection, Brussels
Price on request

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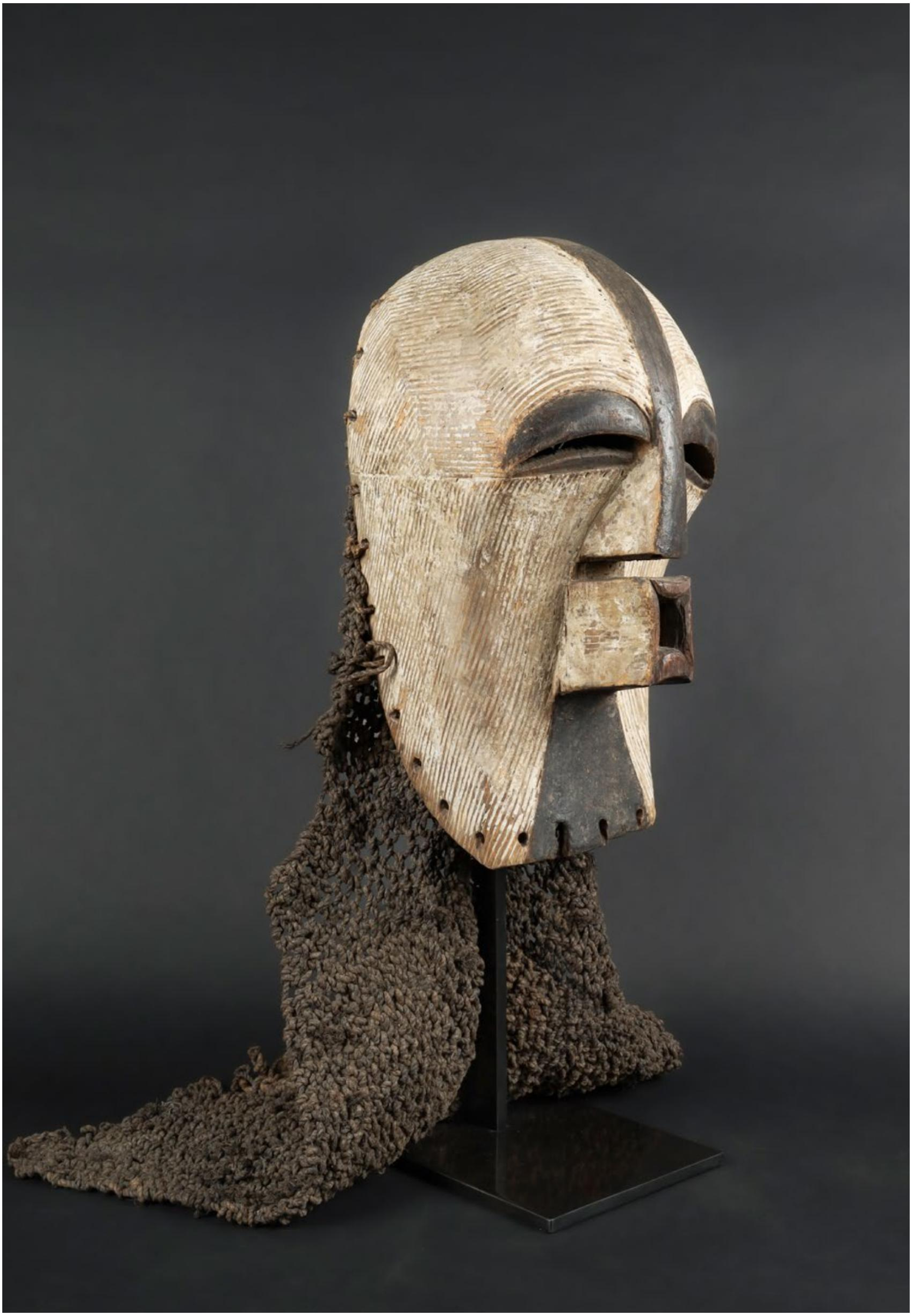
This type of geometric mask represents a powerful female spirit of the Songye.

As stated by the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, “certain masking traditions of the Congo River basin personify local control of mystical power. Striated face masks known as Kifwebe probably originated in North Shaba, an area inhabited by both Songye and Luba groups. Among the small Songye chiefdoms along the Lomami River, maskers were emissaries of the ruling elite, who relied on the ideology of witchcraft and sorcery to sustain their rule. These Kifwebe members commanded a body of esoteric secret knowledge visually encoded mnemonically in the mask's features. Hierarchical distinctions between a single female mask and an unlimited number of male masks are reflected in color and in sculptural features”.

This mask represents the female Kifwebe spirit known as *bikashi*. White Kifwebe masks are usually associated with benevolence and peace.

The style of this mask is highly reminiscent of Cubist artworks. The projecting nose and mouth, the narrow, undulating stripes, the patina and signs of use are all particularly noteworthy.



14

KONDA SWORD

Sword in scabbard
Konda people
D.R. of Congo
19th to early 20th century
Wood, iron, brass. Old gold brass and patinated oak custom stand by Romain Laforêt.
Height: 51 cm
Provenance: Dieter Schaffner, Germany
Price: 1.600 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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Photo: Isabelle Guegan

15

KUBA BOWL

Pipe bowl
Kuba, Western Kasai Region
D.R of Congo
Early 20th century or before
Wood
Height: 14 cm
Provenance: Probably M. Simpson
Private collection, Spain (acquired in American auction)
Price: 4.500 euros

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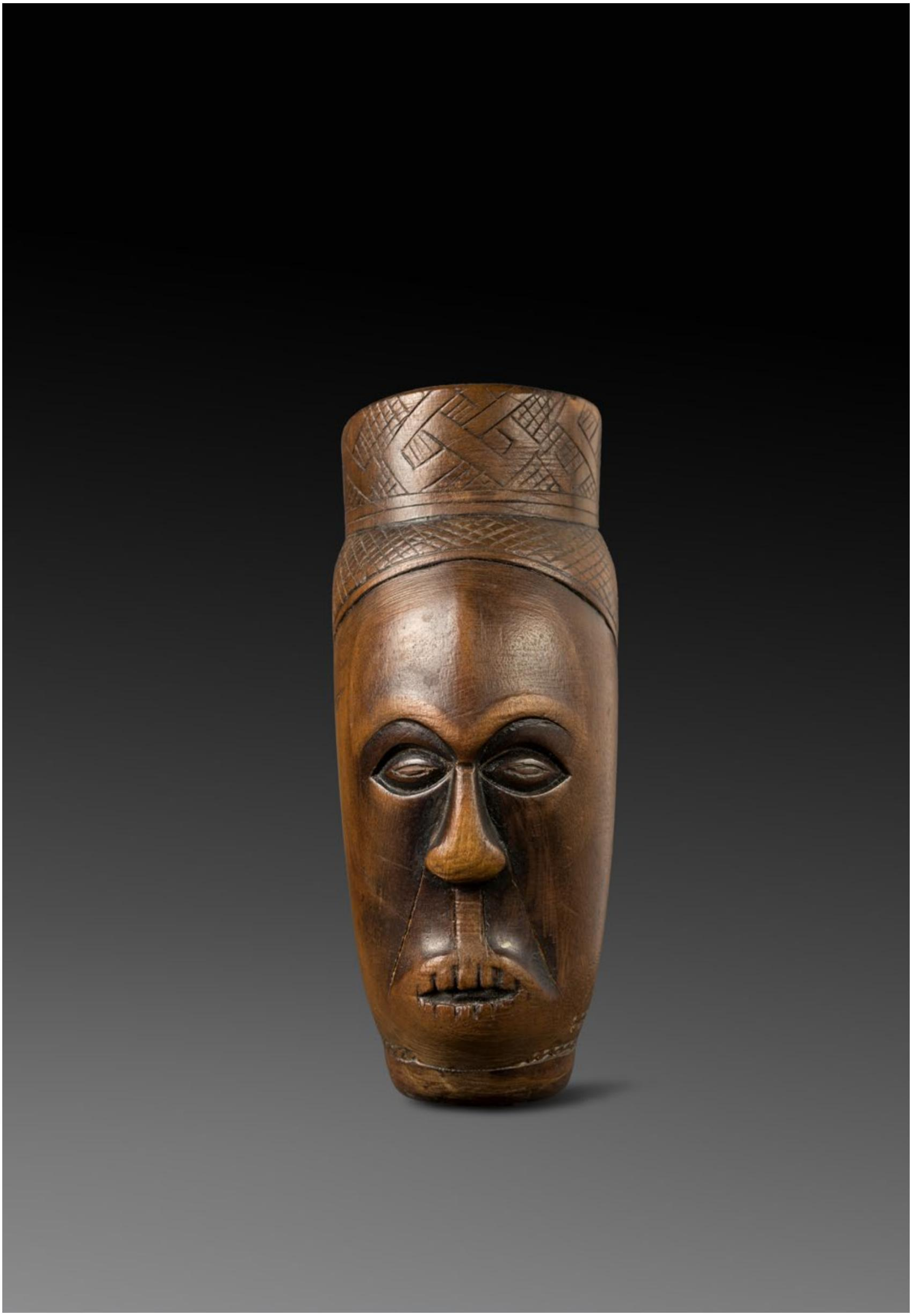

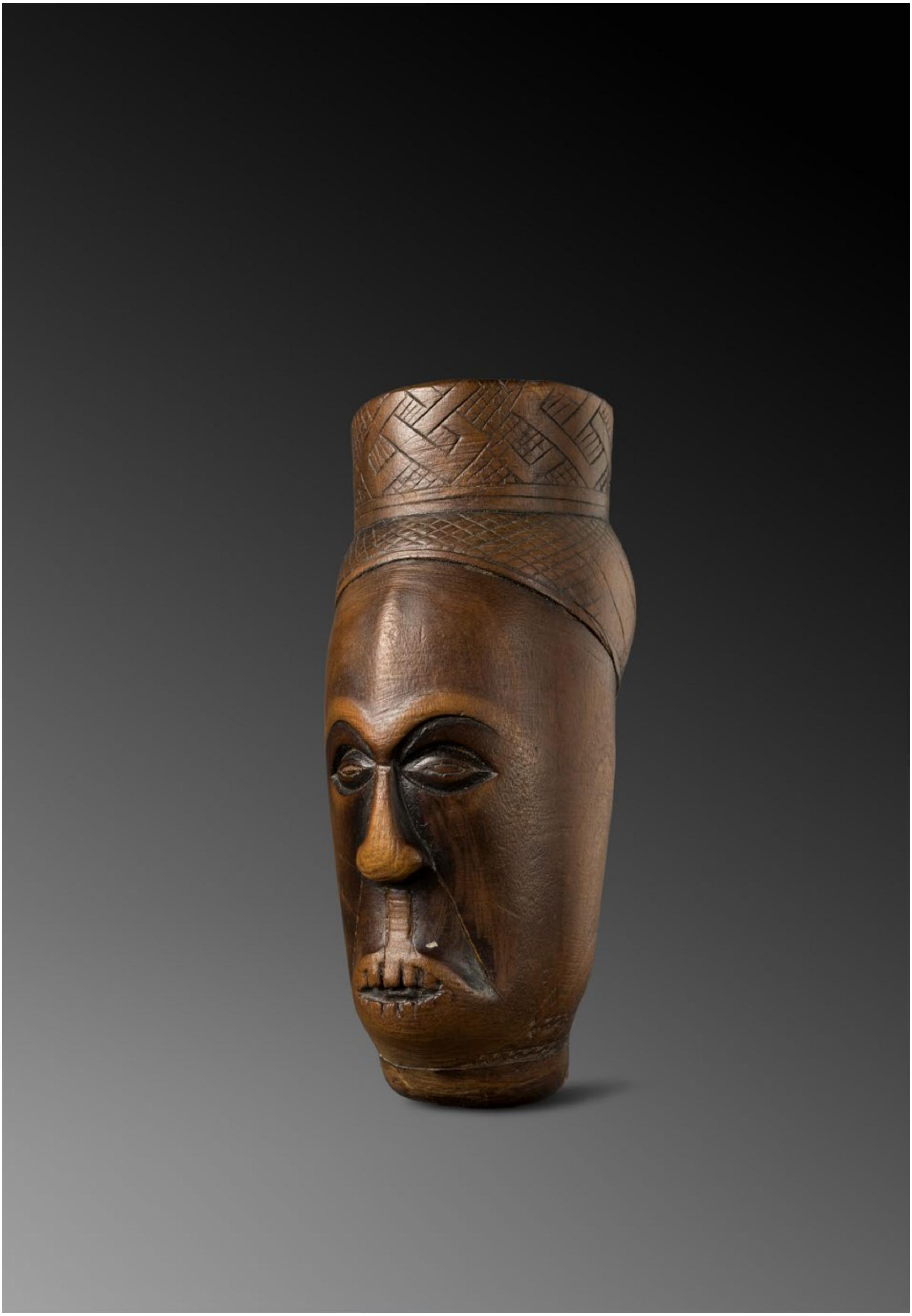

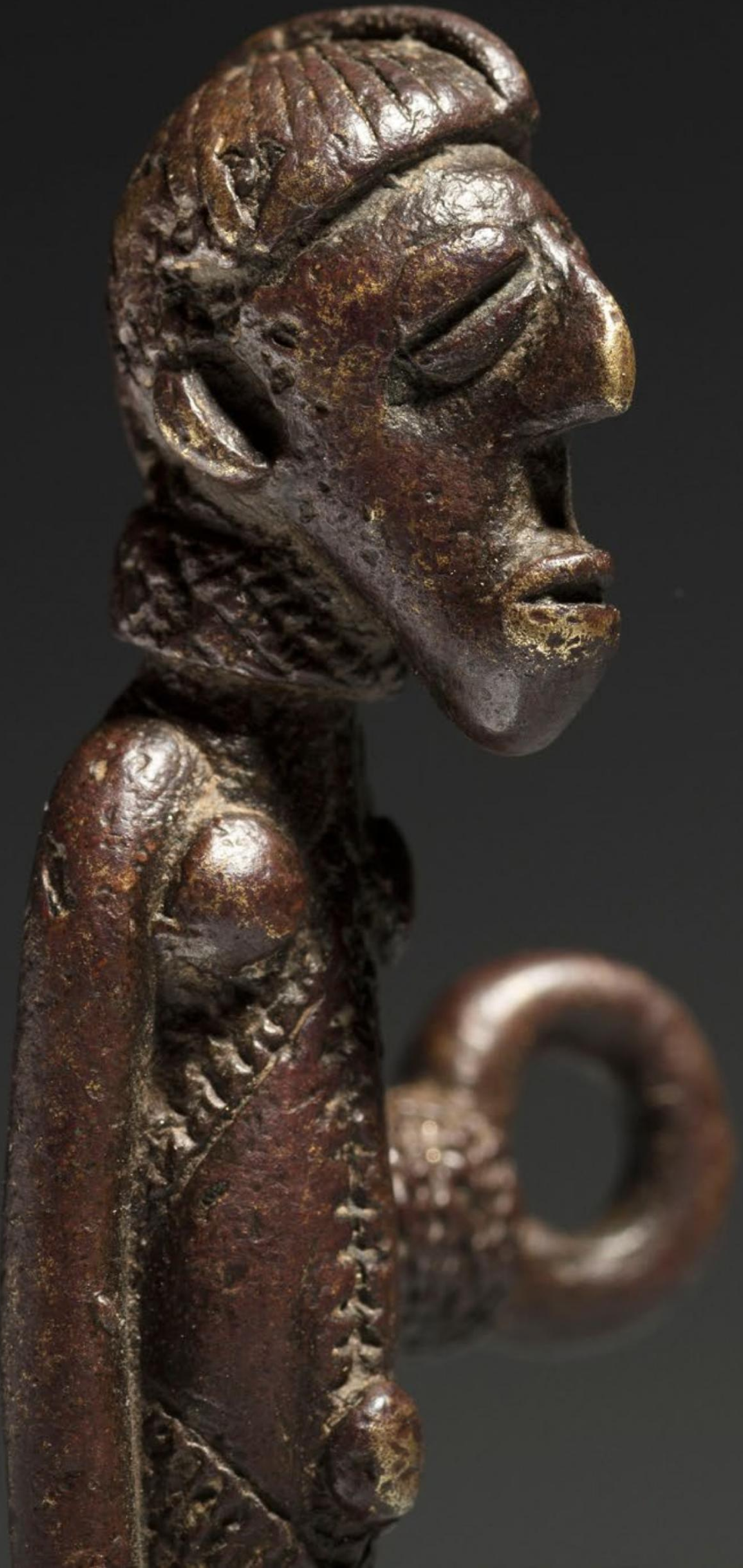

16

LOBI PENDANT

Pendant
Lobi
Burkina Faso
Early 20th century
Copper alloy
Height: 9,5 cm
Provenance:
Private collection, United Kingdom
Price: 2.500 euros

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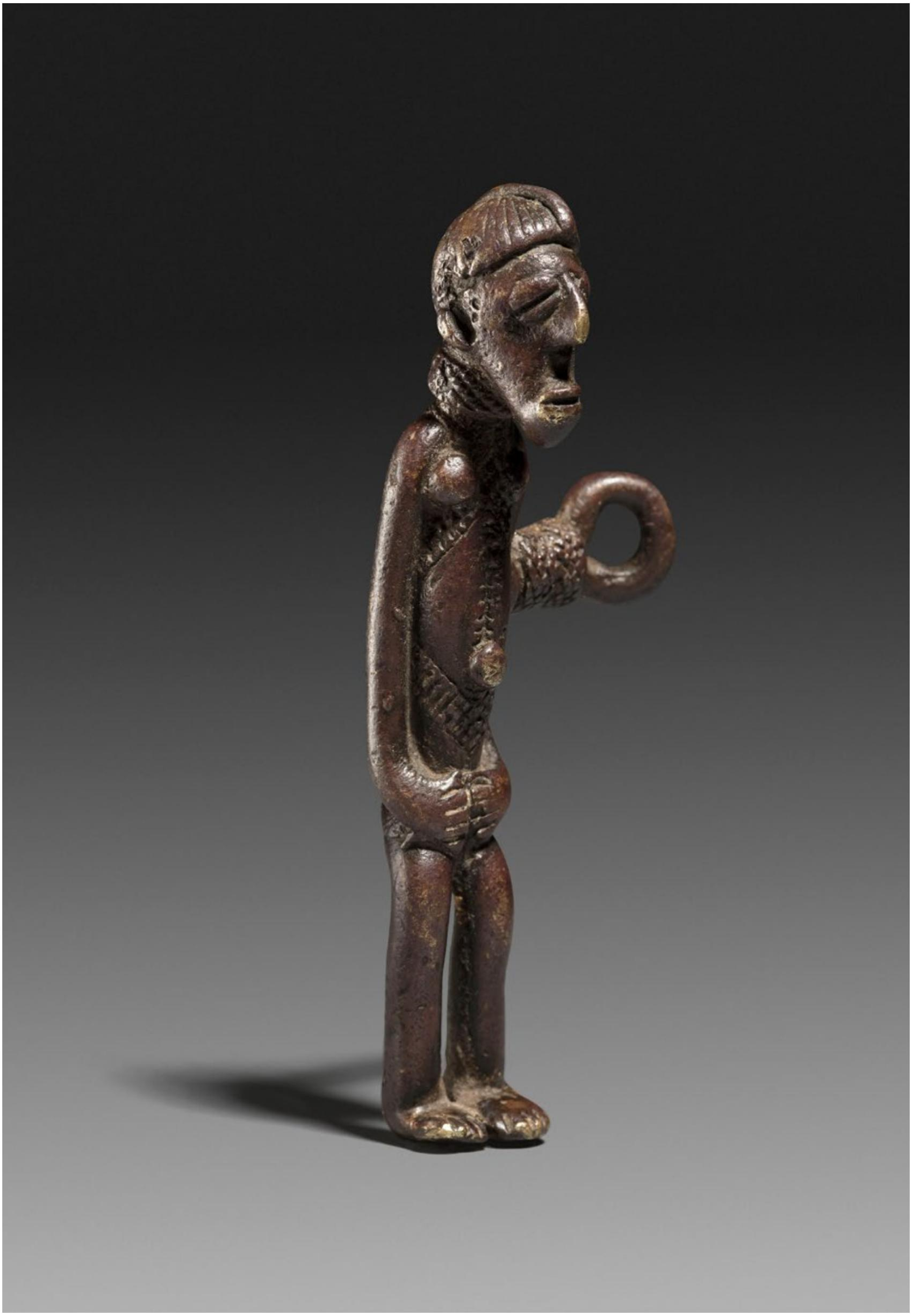

17

MINDJA FIGURE

Yam fertility figure, “Kwaga” (according to Douglas Newton’s notes)
Nukuma people
Washkuk Hills, Upper Sepik, Papua New Guinea
Early 20th century
Carved wood and pigments
Height: 82 cm
Provenance: Field-collected by Douglas Newton, 1973
Douglas Newton collection (1920-2001), New York, inv. # “Nu 15”
John & Marcia Friede, Jolika collection, Rye, New York
Marc Assayag collection, Montreal
John Dubrow collection , New York

TAS Exclusive Price: 9.500 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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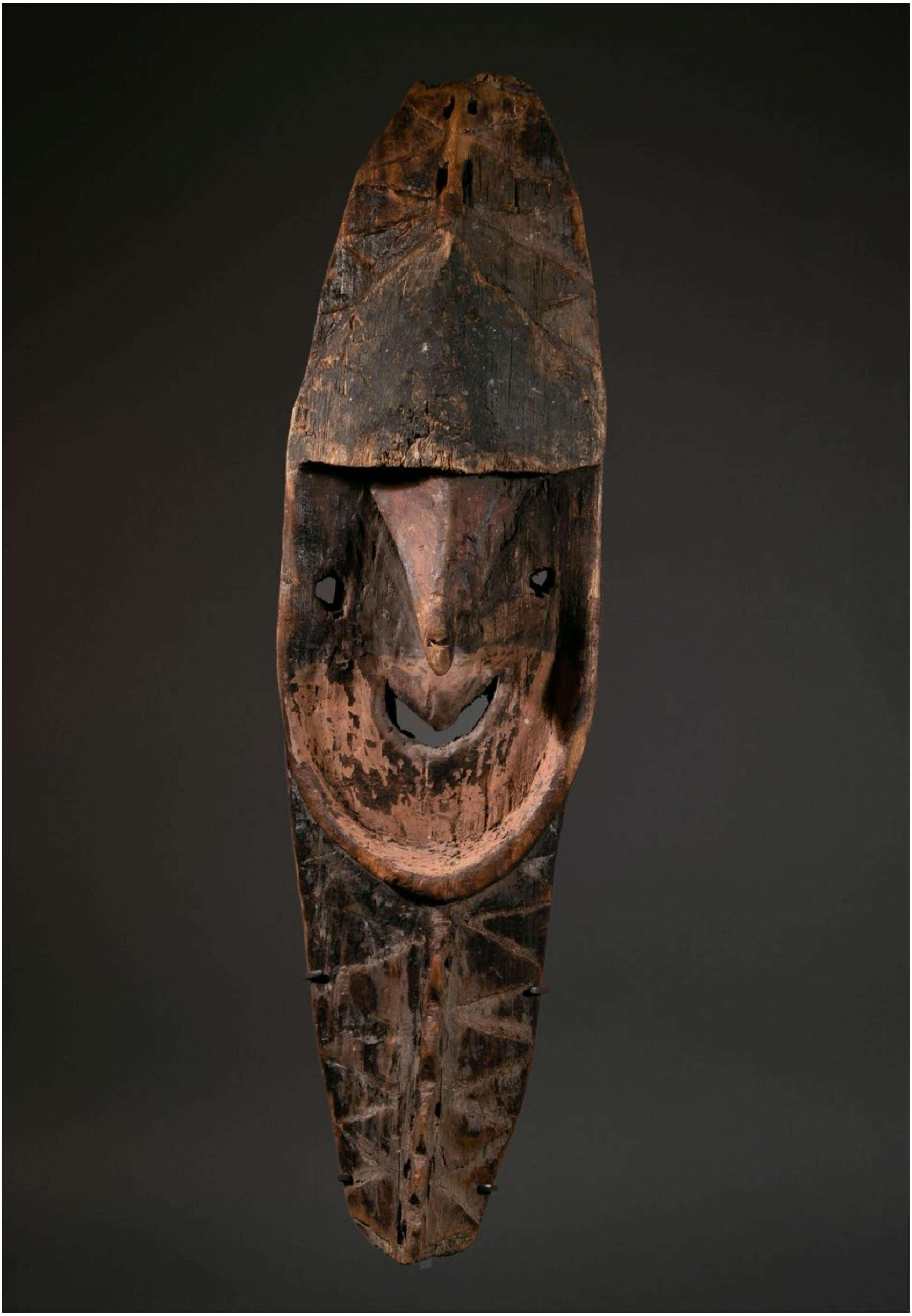
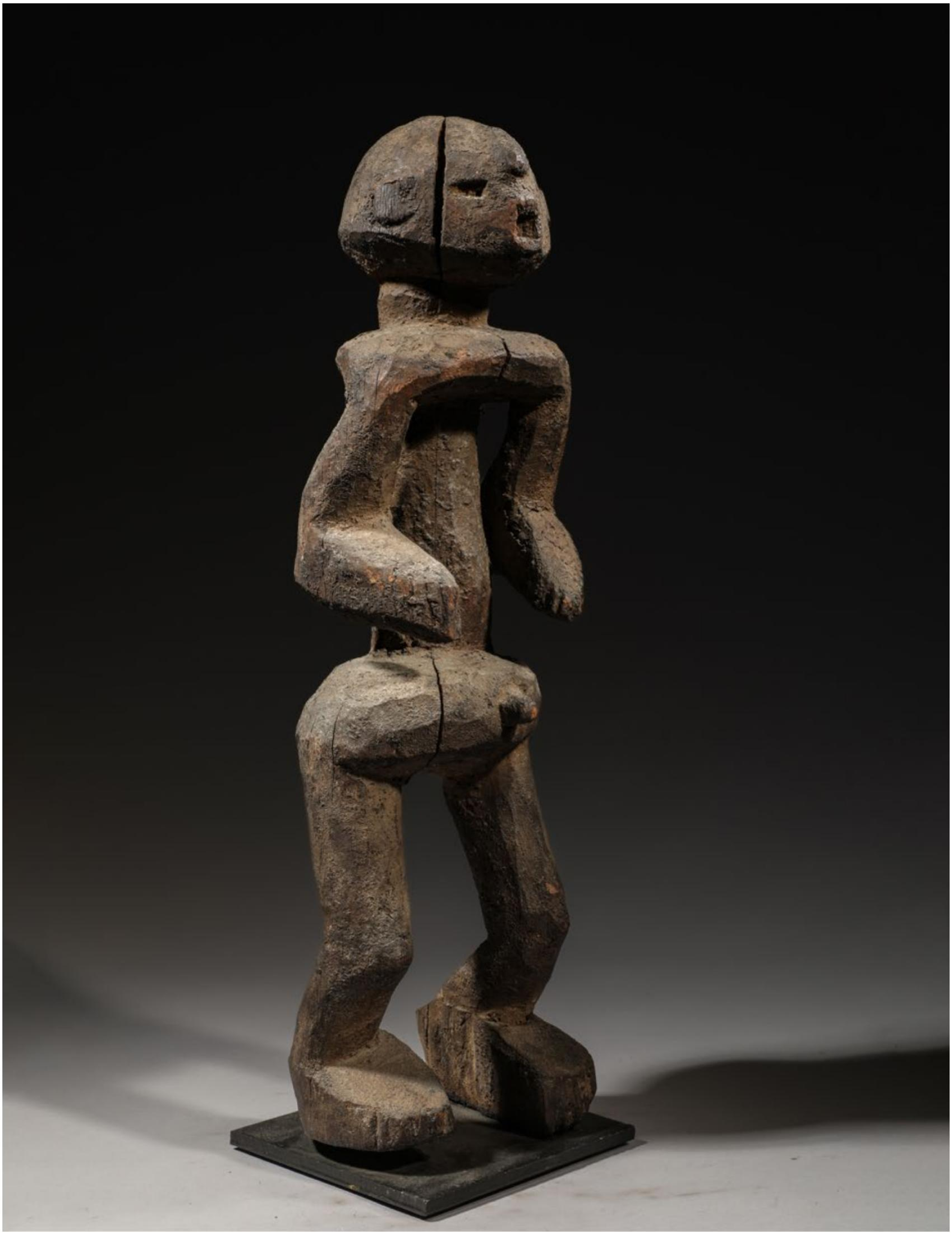
This 82 cm tall figure captivates with its enigmatic and magnetic smile. It conveys a deep sense of mystery and poetry through its highly expressive features.

This type of votive board from the Upper Sepik region is called Mindja. It was used in ceremonies associated with the yam harvest. The Yam cult is based on a creation myth in which an elderly woman taught her adopted grandson how to grow yams.

In terms of provenance, this mindja board was collected in Papua New Guinea by Douglas Newton in 1973. It remained in his personal collection until his death in 2001. Douglas Newton (1920-2001) was the former chief curator of the Museum of Primitive Art in New York and then chief curator for the Tribal Art department at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. He is the author of numerous reference books on the arts and cultures of Oceania. New Guinea was the passion of his lifetime. This mindja board was later acquired by John & Marcia Friede (the Jolika collection) in 2002.





18

MONTOL STATUE

Statue
Montol
Nigeria
Wood, thick crusty patina
Height: 53 cm
Provenance:
Bernard Fraissine collection, Rodez
Private collection, Paris
Price on request

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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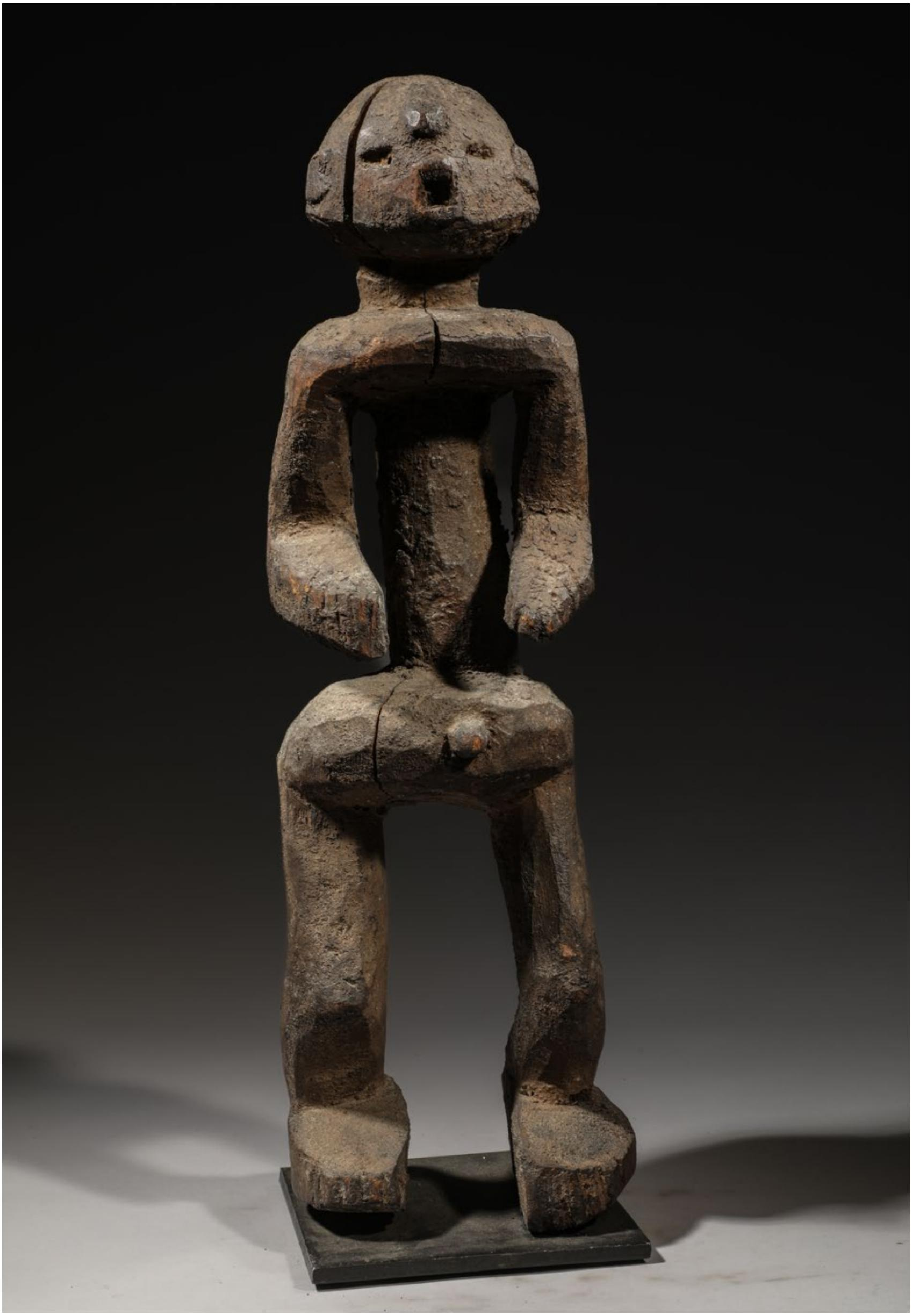

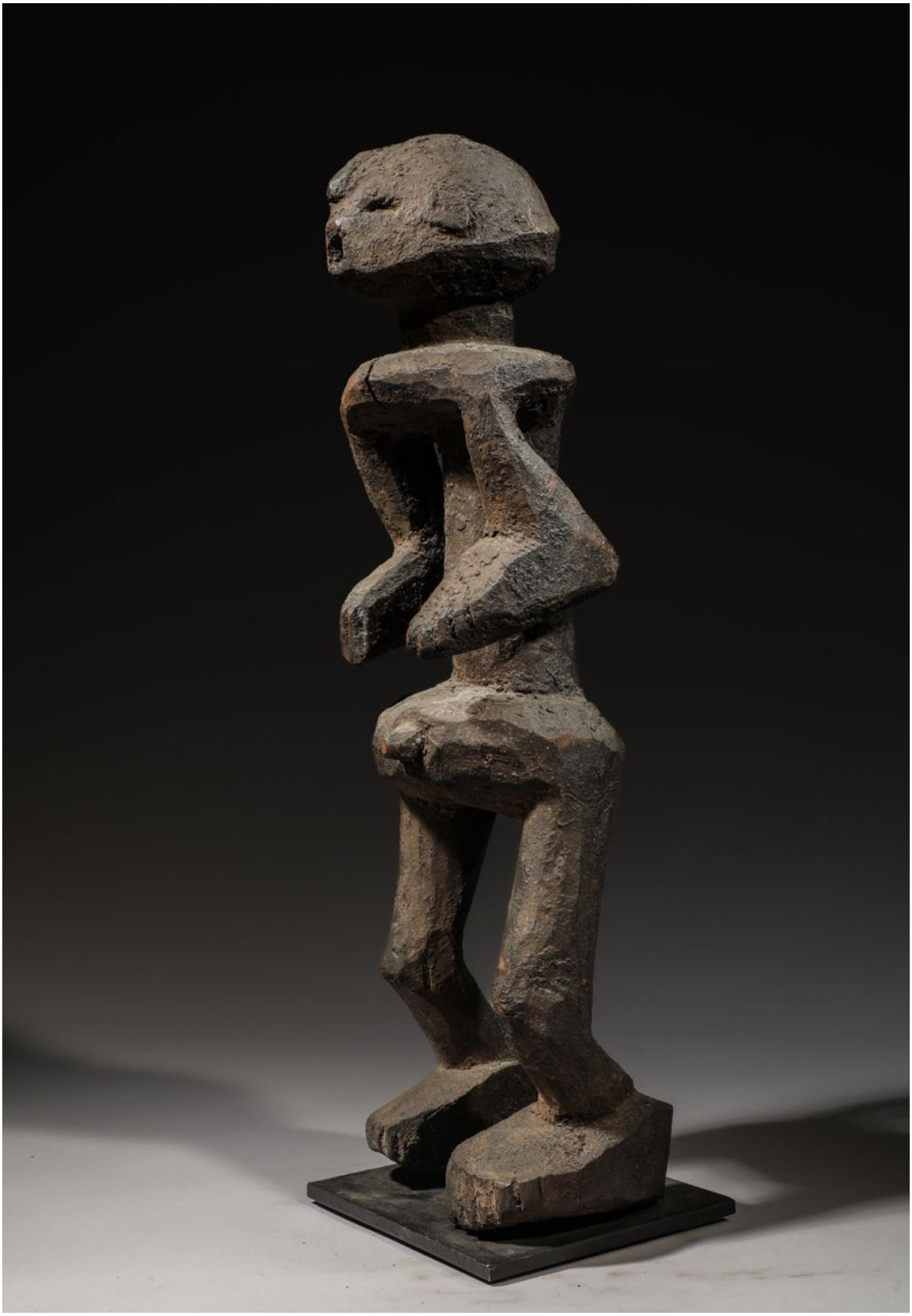

19

SONGYE FIGURE

Nkisi Figure
Songye
D.R of Congo
Late 19th century – Early 20th century
Wood, dik-dik horn, vegetal fibers and metal
Height: 29 cm
Provenance:
Old private collection, Belgium
P. Dartevelle, Belgium
Private colletion, U.S.A
Price: 14.000 euros

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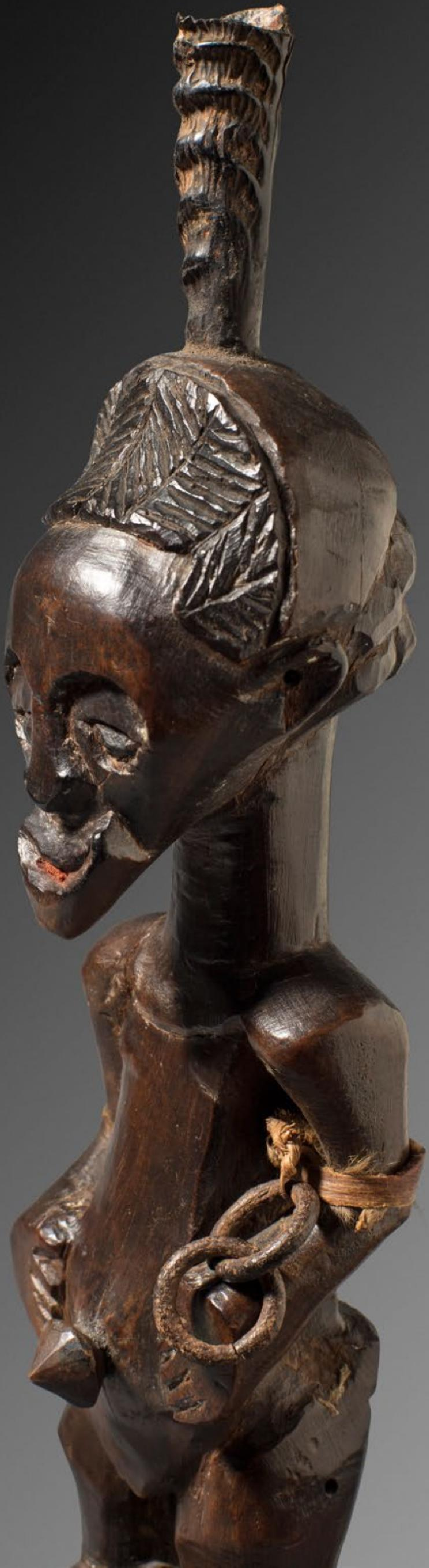

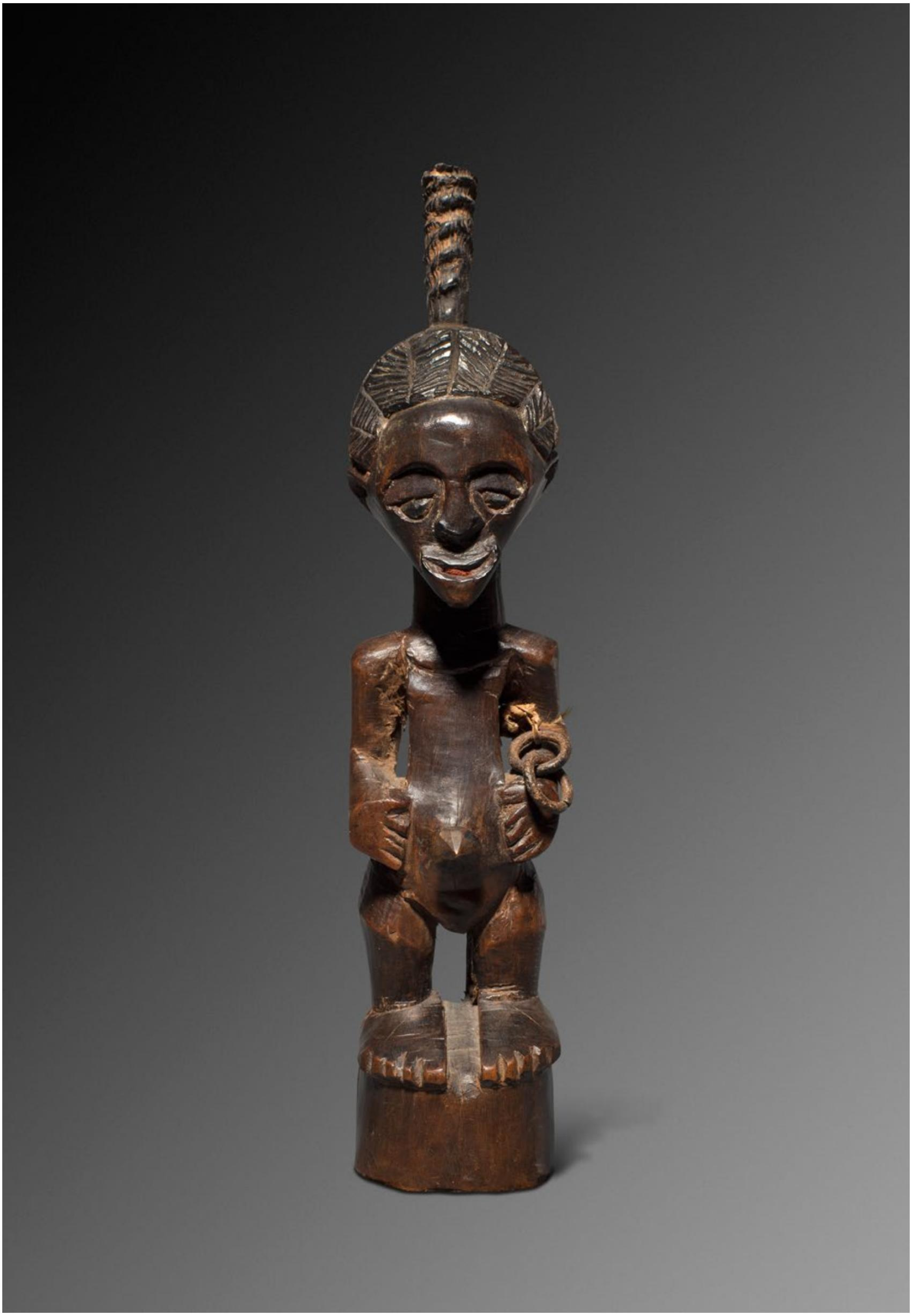

20

OGONI MASK

Mask
Ogoni
Niger delta
Circa 1900 or older
22 cm x 18 cm
Provenance:
U.K. collection
Price: 1.200 euros

A very old Ogoni Mask C1900 or older. Old native repair to one horn and erosion consistent with great age to the back.

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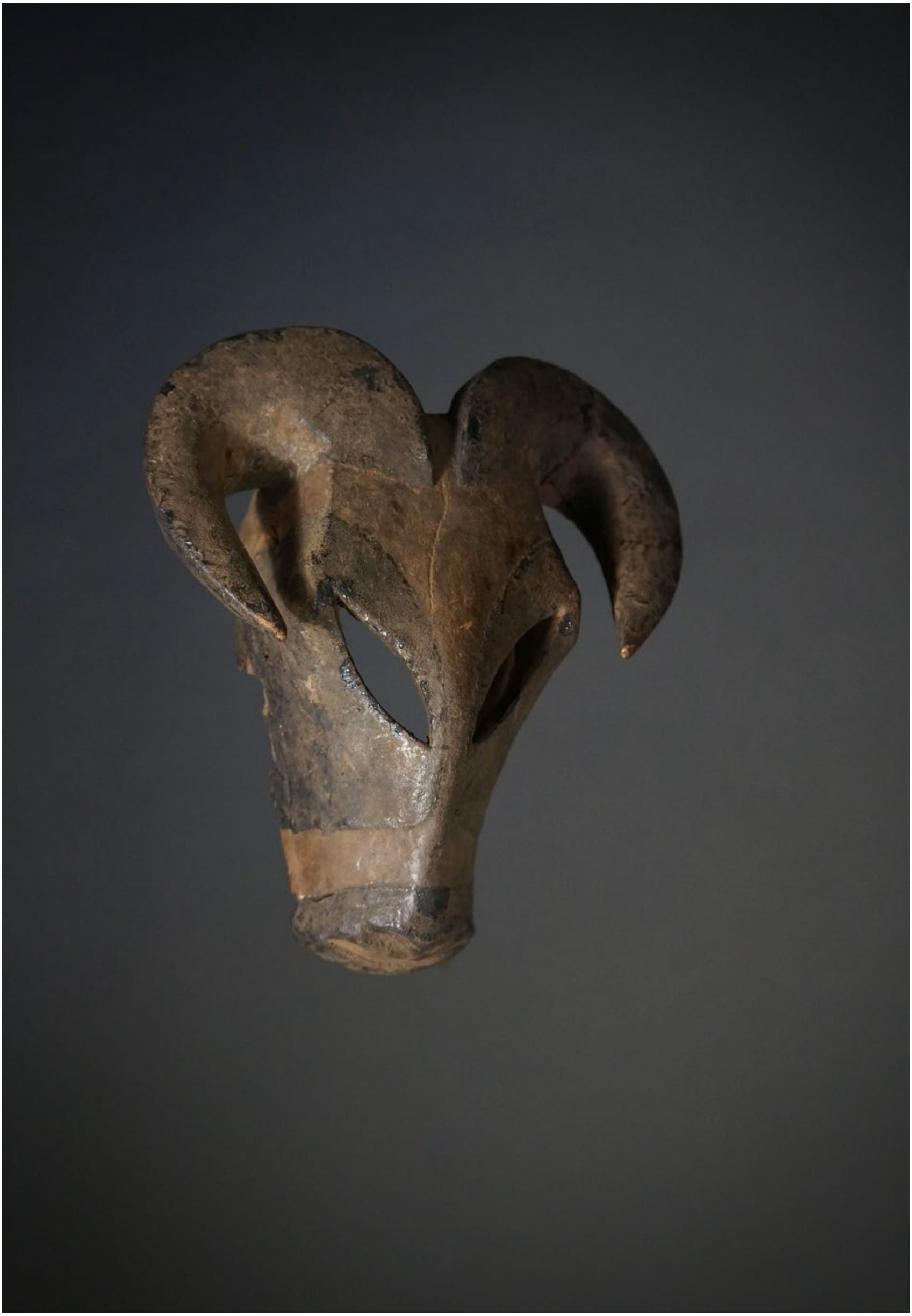

21

PLAINS CREE SHOES

Snow Shoes
Plains Cree
Canada
19th century
107 cm x 35 cm
Price: 950 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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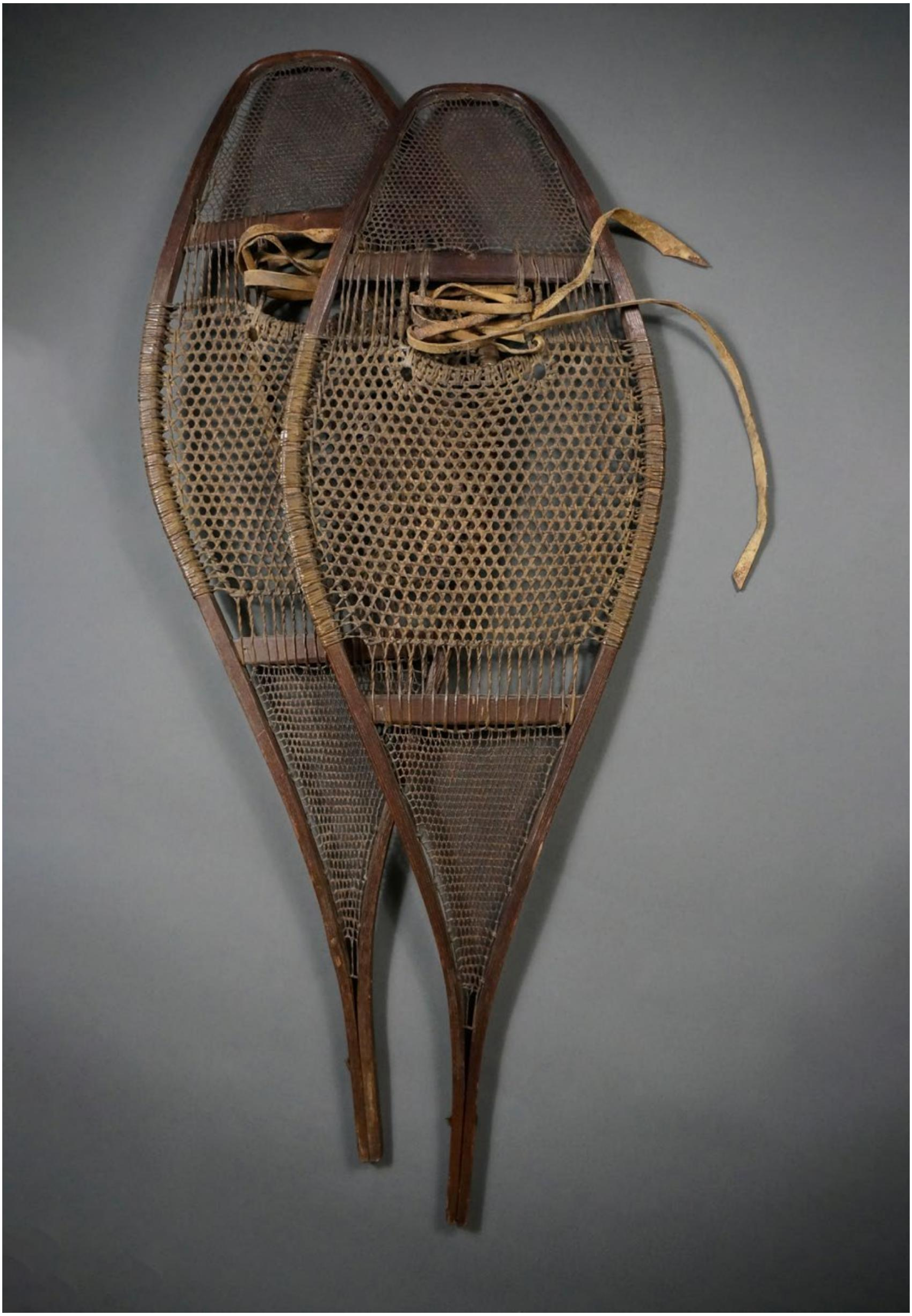
W.: www.adamprout.com



22

SALT MORTAR

Salt Mortar
Hawaii
19th century or earlier
Volcanic Stone
23 cm x 10 cm
Provenance:
James Willis
Old Hawaiian collection
Price: 3.500 USD

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
Thomas Murray
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This salt mortar is exceptionally beautiful in shape and form and is enhanced by a center marking etched out from ethnographic use and giving it a “Zen” like quality. Hawaiian salt is prized all over the world. This piece is very likely to be 19th Century or earlier and comes from an old Hawaiian Collection.

23

SENUFO PULLEY

Pulley
Senufo
Ivory Coast
Wood
Height: 20 cm
Provenance: Max Itzikovitz collection, Paris
Pablo Touchaleaume collection, Paris
Private collection, Paris
Price on request

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
Pablo Touchaleaume
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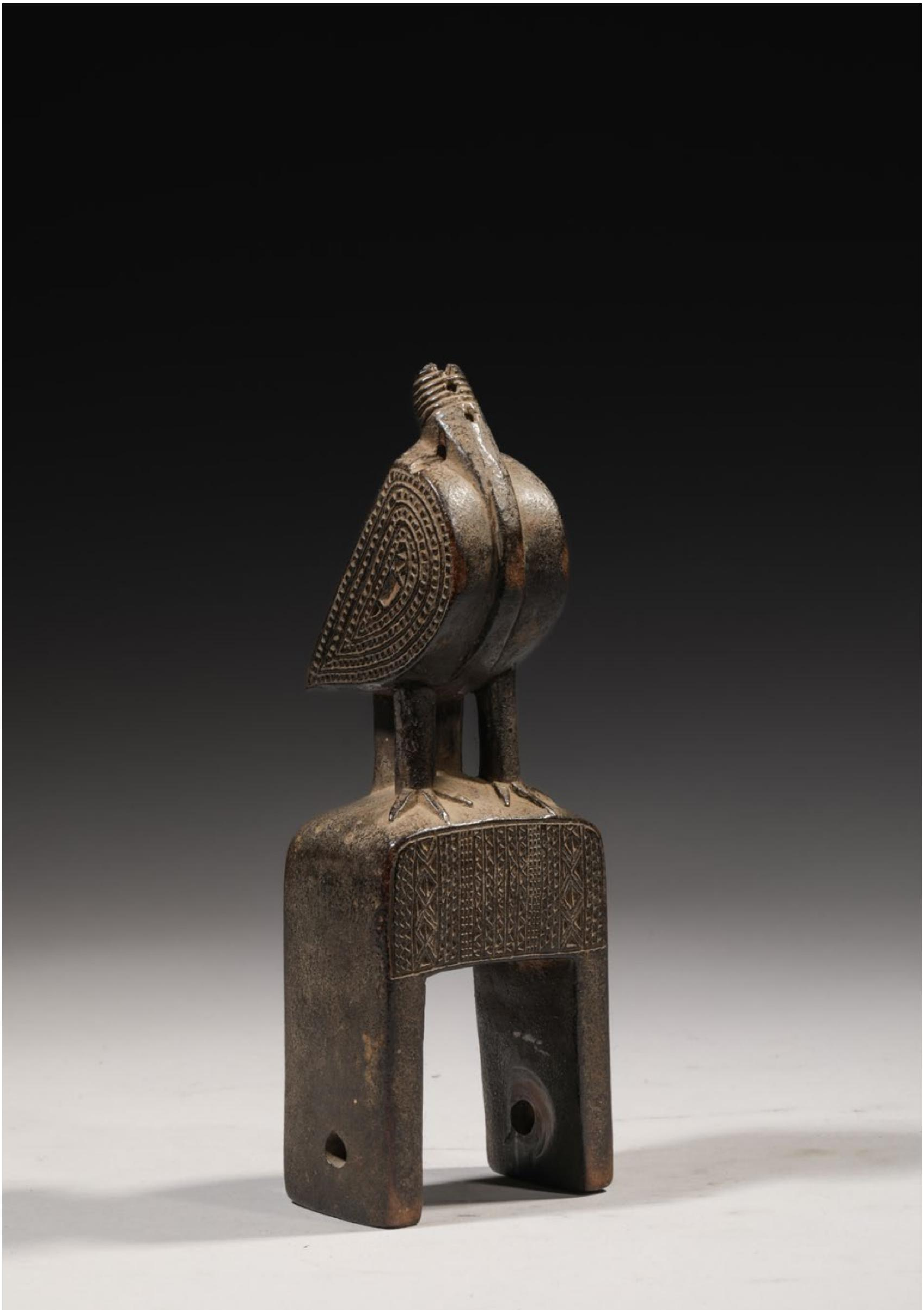

24

SHONA HEADREST

Headrest
Shona
Zimbabwe
Wood
Height: 16,5 cm
Provenance:
Private collection
Price: 2.750 USD

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
Mark Eglinton
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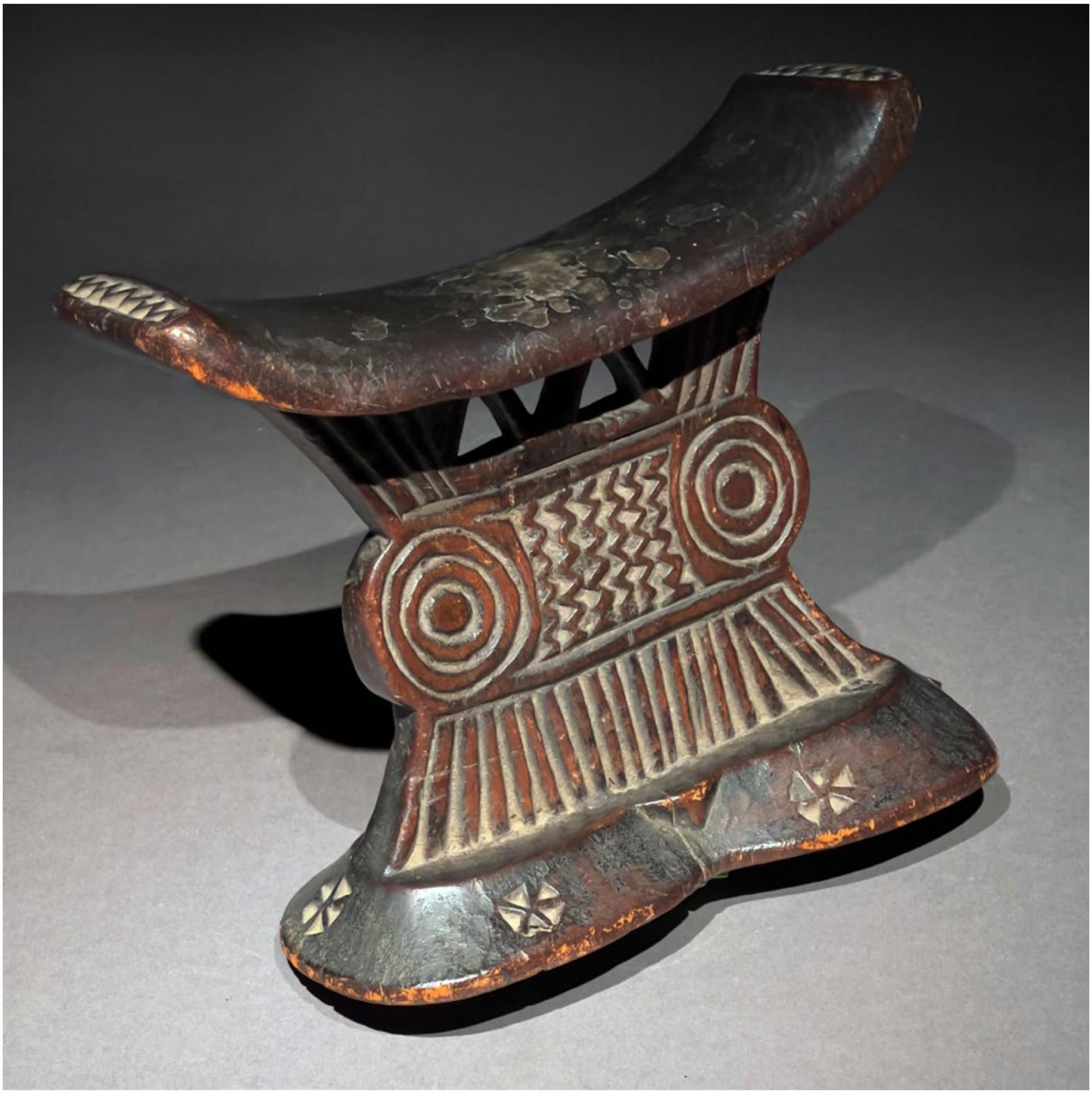

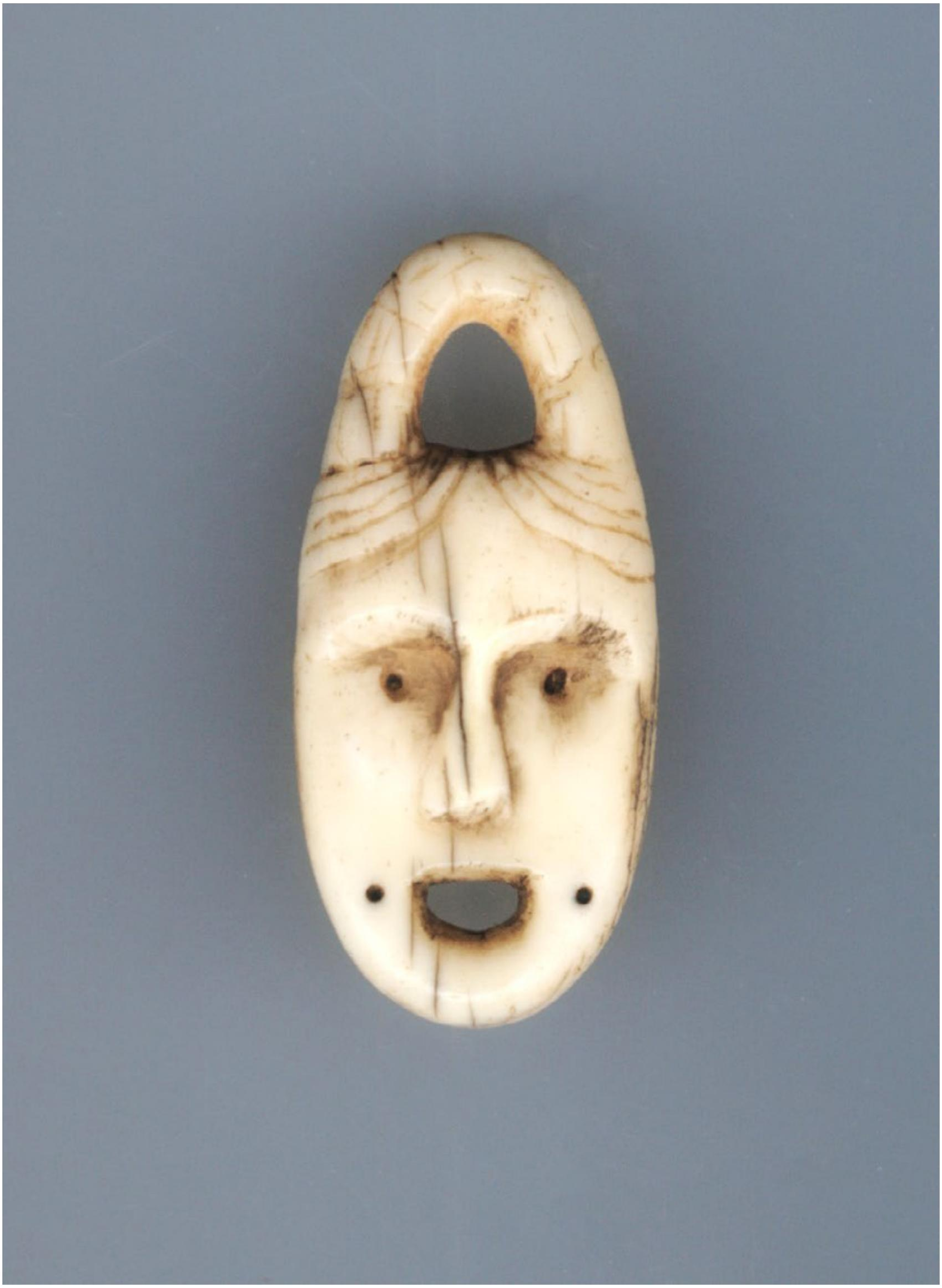

25

THULE PENDANT

Double-sided pendant
Thule culture
Alaska
1800-1900 AD
Walrus tusk with distinctive signs of wear and age
4 cm x 2 cm
Price: 3.300 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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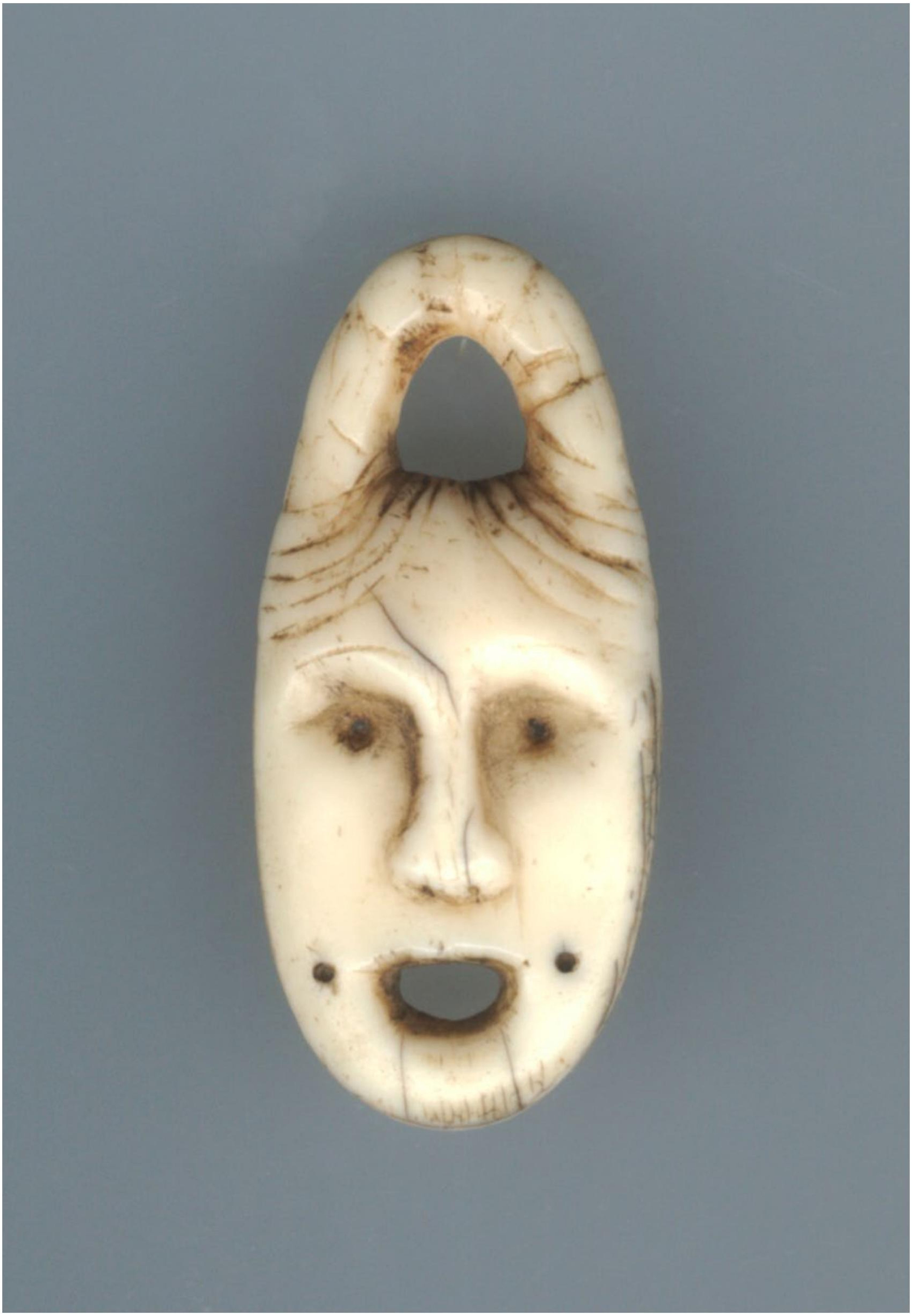
A small double-sided pendant carved with a smiling face to either side. Both faces show incised dot tattoo motifs to either side of the mouth which is carved through. The hair is separated on the brow swept to the sides of the forehead and bundled into a loop forming the hanger. This is a unique representation of Janus' faces.

Currently presented at the exhibition "MANA - in the Artwork, the Power"
Until 1st of April 2023
At Galerie Meyer
17 rue des Beaux-Arts, 75006 - Paris. France



26

TIEFO STATUES

Statues
Tiefo
Burkina Faso
Wood, red pigment
Height: 50 cm
Price: 3.200 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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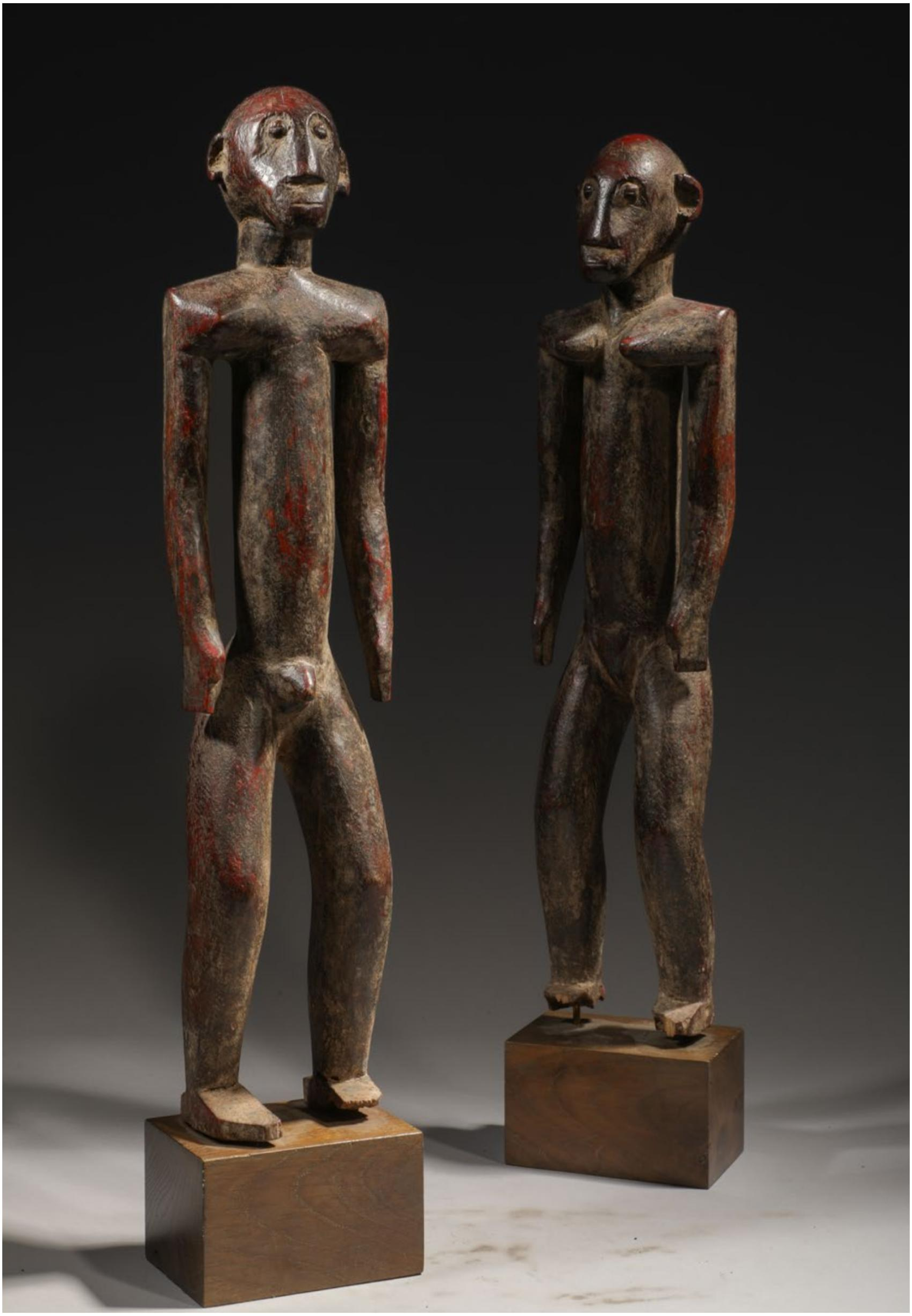

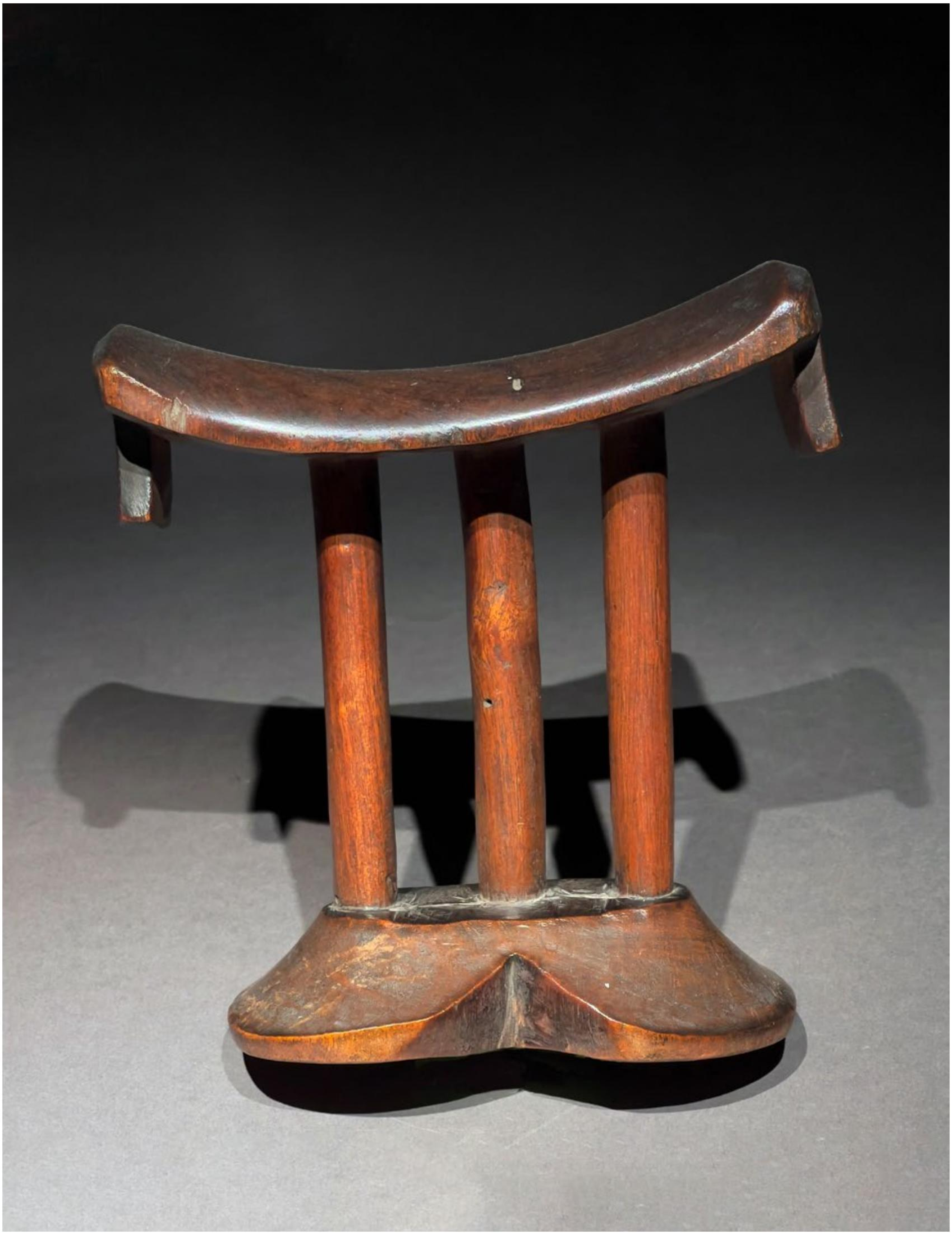

27

TSONGA NECKREST

Neckrest
Tsonga
South Africa
Wood
Height: 15 cm
Provenance:
Tom Hurst, UK
Price: 2.700 USD

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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28

TSONGA NECKREST

Neckrest
Tsonga
South Africa
Wood
Height: 15 cm
Provenance:
Private collection, USA
Price: 3.850 USD

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29

WOLA WAR SHIELD

War shield
Lai Valley, Southern Highlands, Papua New Guinea
Early 20th century
Carved wood and pigments
Height: 135 cm
Provenance:
Chris Boylan collection, Sydney

TAS Exclusive Price: 7.000 euros

OBJECT PRESENTED BY:
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Warfare has been at the center of Highlands life since immemorial times. The shield has always been considered an extension of the warrior himself.

When warfare was expected, warriors repainted their shields to ensure that the colors shone brilliantly against the sun to dazzle and threaten the opposing side. In the western Pacific, shields bore the name of warriors, and possessed a life force, or spirit, that connected them to their ancestors.

As stated by Chris Boylan who previously owned this sculpture, shields of the Mendi Valley are generally painted in simple bold designs that incorporate circles and semi-circles in meaningful but abstract designs. This is one of the rarer examples that depicts an anthropomorphic figure. When figures are painted on shields, they usually represent ancestors, not spirits, who lend protective power to the warrior using the shield.

Red is the color of victory (and blood), and most often the major color on Mendi valleys shields: it hopes to pre-ordain victory over the enemy. The background is white clay, painted to further emphasize the red figure.

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ZULU NECKREST

Neckrest
Zulu
KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
19th century
Wood and pokerwork
Height:17,8 cm
Provenance:
Collected by Gertrude Rachel Hance (1844-1922)
Missionary in Natal from 1870-1899
Price: 1.800 USD

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